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A nurse's lifesaving essentials

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

Woman heads to help out in ravaged region



Leah Holoiday
Metro | Edmonton

At roughly \$2, Shelby Bay's Birthing Kits include just seven items. Each can stop the spread of

disease and infection, and save a life. In Nepal, that is.

"The further away you get from the Kathmandu, the less there is," said Bay, of health resources in Nepal. "A lot of women actually birth their own babies."

Since the earthquake, that's become even more stark. And

so, the 28-year-old registered nurse is raising money to assemble the kits and heading to Nepal in less than two weeks, to lend a hand building a temporary maternity ward near Rautesbi Village, a 100-kilometre drive from Kath-

mandu.

The April 25 earthquake that

shook Nepal hit the village was hard.

"I'm pretty sure my heart beats to see the world and help people in it," Bay, who currently works as a cardiac nurse in Edmonton, said.

Once in Nepal, Bay will be teaming up with two organizations — Global Orphan Prevention and Helping Assist Nepal's Disabled — to offer maternity care in the remote area, just in time for the monsoon season.

“My heart beats to see the world and help people.”

Shelby Bay

THE KIT

Seven items that will save lives

Edmonton nurse Shelby Bay said her Birthing Kits are purposefully simple. "A lot of people have these things," she said. "You don't want to create a lot of garbage." METRO

TO CLEAN

1 Soap

The kit's tiny piece of soap is used to clean up before and after delivering the baby. "We take a bar of soap and cut it into four," said Bay.

TO PROTECT

2 Gloves

A pair of plastic gloves helps prevent disease transmission and ensures cleanliness. "There is a fair amount of HIV and other blood-borne diseases," Bay said of childbirth in Nepal.

TO STOP BLEEDING

3 Gauze

Five squares of gauze helps with post clean-up care and potential bleeding. "The birthing process is not a clean deal. Especially when you're doing it on a dirt floor," from cities across Canada, including Montreal, Calgary, Yellowknife and, of course, Toronto.

TO CUT

4 Razor blade

The small razor blade is to cut the umbilical cord.

TO BIRTH

5 Sheet

Small plastic sheet offers a clean birthing surface for moms.

TO TIE

6 String

Three pieces of string are used to tie the umbilical cord before it's cut. "We have clamps (in the West), but that's not necessary. String absolutely suffices."

TO ORGANIZE

7 Baggy

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See page 37 for full details.

What does a bus driver make?

Edmonton



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Toronto



\$32.67/hr

Edmonton bus drivers make some of the best money compared to others across the country. Only Calgary drivers make more (\$33.42). Here's the rate that drivers can max out at in cities across Canada.

STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

Saskatoon



\$23.85/hr

Halifax



\$25.47/hr

WHY SO MUCH?

Edmonton's Amalgamated Transit Union 569 representatives say there are a variety of factors that go into their wages.

"It certainly has to do with local economies. We're not out in front alone," said Steve Bradshaw, president of the union.

The pay-scale Edmonton is negotiated by the union with the city through collective bargaining agreements, which are later approved by council. The city declined to comment on local bus operator wages.

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WINTER GARDEN

Arena plaza lags behind arena



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Oilers fans won't be celebrating the team's playoff successes — should there be any — in the plaza in front of the new arena until 2018.

The plaza, which will be south of the building's Winter Garden pedway, is a planned gathering space for the team's fans.

Oilers spokesperson Tim Shipton said people will still be able to access the Winter Garden, as well as the new city office tower and the casino, but parts of the plaza will be closed while other projects are complete.

"The Winter Garden will be fully functional," he said. "That will all be open when the arena opens, the other elements of the district will be in various stages of construction."

Shipton said they're confident access to the facility won't be a problem even with the plaza partially closed off.

"We have got a construction logistics and hoarding plan to make sure that the flow of people and the traffic is good throughout that experience," he said.

Shipton said they have known for sometime there



Renderings like this one have been circulating for more than a year of the arena's non-hockey amenities, but they will not be ready until 2018. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ HO, KATZ GROUP

would be construction issues as the various projects in the district finish and they have been planning for it all along.

"From day one of arena construction, district construction we said we have an 18-month to two-year construction logistics challenge," he said. "We're very comfortable with where the plan is at."

He said they will also have a good communication plan that will let people know what to expect with the arena as time goes on.

Ian O'Donnell, vice-president of the Downtown Edmonton

Community League, said he's not worried about the plaza's delayed completion date.

"It's sort of short-term pain for long-term gain. Everyone realizes the arena is evolving and it's not going to do so overnight," he said.

He said the new projects downtown are really exciting and people will just have to adapt through the construction phase.

"I don't think it is going to be a detriment in the first few years, but clearly it's going to require patrons of the arena to plan ahead," he said.

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Parking loss presents problem

PROPOSAL

Farmers' market can't afford to lose spots: Director



Ryan Tumilty
Metro|Edmonton

A proposed new park north of Whyte Avenue isn't making the Old Strathcona Farmers' Market happy, as the organization worries about losing vehicle parking.

The plans, released last week, call for a park running along Gateway Boulevard from Whyte Avenue to Saskatchewan Drive.

The planning work is still in the early stages but pro-

poses to extend the historic radial railway to Whyte Avenue (it currently terminates at Gateway), as well as build new amenities, including potentially a fountain and an amphitheatre.

The park's conceptual work came from the Old Strathcona Business Association and the Strathcona Foundation.

As it currently stands, the proposal would consume the large parking lot opposite the farmers' market.

The market's executive director Stephanie Szakacs-St. Louis, said that could be a major problem.

"As a member of the community, we always strive to be a good neighbour, however we are concerned about the potential loss of parking that this project may create for our customers," she said, in an email.



We hope that any proposed changes to the area will take this issue very seriously.

Stephanie Szakacs-St. Louis

Szakacs-St. Louis added the market's biggest problem today is parking for customers, so they could ill afford to lose spots.

"We have over 20,000 customers visit us on market days and the number one complaint we hear from them is that parking is a problem around Old Strathcona, so we hope that any proposed changes to the area will take this issue very seriously."

Coun. Ben Henderson welcomed the initiative and said



The proposed park is still in the conceptual stages, but would run from Whyte Avenue to Saskatchewan Drive. CONTRIBUTED

it's a good idea to try and tie the two ends of the land together, but he's unsure exact-

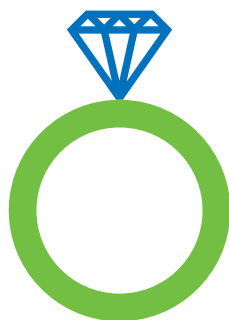
ly how that will happen.

"I don't think there has been any real discussion about what

happens with that land, so whether it is all of it or none of it. I don't know," he said.



LEGISLATURE ELEGANT ADDITION Pictured are recently installed fountains near the Alberta Legislature. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO



The 'Put-a-ring-on-it' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.



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U of A researcher Liam Rourke has devised an app that helps users learn the difference between a melanoma and a benign mole. LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

App a better way to identify skin cancer

DIAGNOSTICS

U of A prof's program can make anyone an expert

Lucy Haines
Metro | Edmonton

Is that a mole? Or is it something more deadly?

Liam Rourke, an associate professor in the department of medicine at the University of Alberta, is changing the way medical students — and eventually, all of us — answer that question.

"Melanomas look like freckles, moles and other common benign lesions that everybody has," Rourke said.

"The bad news is that skin cancer can kill, but the good

“

Melanomas look like freckles, moles and other common benign lesions that everybody has.

Liam Rourke, associate professor, department of medicine, University of Alberta

news is that it's highly treatable and curable when caught before spreading. Early detection is key."

So, Rourke has created an app that helps physicians identify what they're looking at. It's so easy to use, it may help the public do the same in the future.

In a new study published in the journal JAMA Dermatology, Rourke, the lead author, said his team found

that enhancing visual skills to identify a melanoma produced dramatic results.

"Medical students told us the traditional ways of learning about melanoma left them feeling unprepared to diagnose it. We thought there had to be a simpler way."

With the tablet app they created, they "saw an enormous effect," he said.

"Within a few hours of training on an iPad module, students with no medical knowledge or training reached a level of expertise that was close to the level of a dermatology resident."

The app shows a series of A and B pictures, some melanomas and others benign lesions, which users must correctly identify before moving through the program.

With word from the Canadian Cancer Society that cancer rates are expected to rise by some 40 per cent over

the next 15 years, anything that can aid early detection is "excellent news," according to Angeline Webb, senior public policy advisor with the society's Alberta/N.W.T. division.

"Increased cancers will be the result of our growing and aging population, but it's important to draw attention to better detection methods like this," she said.

+ BACKGROUND

- Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in Canada and worldwide.
- Alberta cancer cases are expected to rise dramatically over the next 15 years, especially prostate, colorectal, lung and breast cancers.



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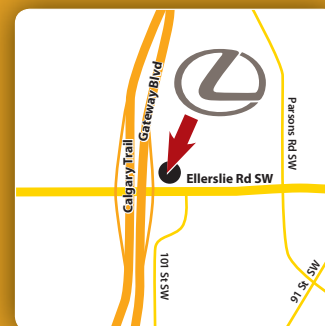
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IN BRIEF

Residents return to homes after wildfires in north

Emergency officials have lifted all evacuation orders for communities threatened by wildfires in northern Alberta. About 5,000 people who were told to leave their homes earlier this week are in the process of returning to their homes.

Scott Long with the province's Emergency Management Agency says fires near Wabasca and Slave Lake are being held. He says residents have been advised that fire conditions could change and they may have to leave again.

The fire outlook throughout the province has been rated severe through the end of the week due to hot and dry weather.

A provincewide fire ban is still in effect, along with air quality advisories for Edmonton and areas north of the city. As of Wednesday, there were 63 fires burning in Alberta and 13 were considered to be out of control.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man charged with attempted murder

A 47-year-old Edmonton man faces an attempted murder charge, as well as multiple firearm-related charges, after a shooting Monday morning in the city's south end.

Officers were called to a weapons complaint at 184 Street and Callingwood Road. When they arrived they found a suspect being held by two citizens and a 33-year-old man suffering multiple gunshot wounds.

Police are not releasing the suspect's name.

In addition to the charges, the accused was taken into custody under the mental health act, according to police.

The victim remains in hospital, but is in stable condition. METRO



The city will roll out a new anti-harassment campaign in July. METRO FILE

Campaign, better app part of upgrades

TRANSIT

Survey found 86% of 160 students felt unsafe on ETS



Stephanie Dubois
Metro | Edmonton

Last year, four men harassed Mari Chartier on the LRT after a football game at Commonwealth Stadium.

On Wednesday, Chartier

told city council that she hesitated to push the emergency button — though she eventually did — but that others need to feel confident to do so should they feel they are being harassed or worse.

"We need to find ways that everybody feels safe when they board transit," Chartier said. "More importantly we need to find ways that when everyone boards transit, they take responsibility for their safety and safety of others and they have the information and tools to deal with harassment."

Chartier's story was one of

several that councillors heard and considered Wednesday as they discussed new plans for extra safety features on Edmonton Transit. Among the new ideas is a phone number people can text during an emergency, an incident reporting option on the city's transit app as well as training operators to report sexual harassment cases to peace officers.

Transit safety has needed review for some time, members of the Edmonton Student Alliance told council.

Alliance chairwoman Danika McConnell said a recent

survey the group conducted found 86 per cent of the 160 students surveyed said they felt unsafe on ETS.

"One of the views the Alliance holds is that student issues are transit issues," she said.

This July, the city will roll out an anti-harassment campaign similar to those in cities like Boston and Washington, said ETS security chief Ron Gabruck told councillors.

The city will then work with advocate groups, like Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton, to roll out the other proposals.

YOUTH

U of A grads having an impact

It's convocation time at the U of A, when idealistic, fresh-faced twenty-somethings step out of the halls of higher learning and into a real world where they hope to make a difference.

That may be a stereotype, but it's the real deal for these class of 2015 graduates who are making an impact even before marching across the stage in their caps and gowns.

Exhibit A: Between taking his undergraduate degree in microbiology and a Bachelor of Education After Degree, 28 year-old Nebeel Jaffer travelled the world, and his experience working with a non-profit group while in Nepal changed him from traveller to activist.

"We saw a need and decided to act," Jaffer said about co-founding Manavta Project, a non-profit company that "builds one toilet at a time" in small villages in Nepal. "We asked 'what do people here lack, and why do they lack it?' Girls would miss school when menstruating because there was no toilet."

On good days, Reid Graham said he feels like a mystery-solving sleuth, and it's no wonder. The 25 year-old Edmontonian who is graduating with a Master of Arts degree in Archaeology has already spent over three years on a 50 year-old excavation project near Stettler that revealed a link between ancient peoples of Alberta and North Dakota.

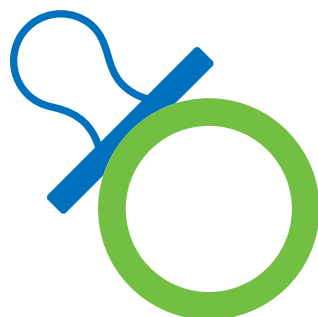
"Was there a mass migration or a result of trade interaction? I'll keep up the research and publish scholarly articles — maybe even turn it into a manuscript," he said.

Rubbing shoulders (and rocks) with the likes of curling greats Brad Jacobs and Kevin Martin is no big deal for chemical engineering grad Brendan Bottcher. The 23 year-old said, "I'll have my engineering degree forever, but there's a window now to be an elite curler."

The ambitious Sherwood Park native has reason to aspire to hopes of an Olympic berth. With a U of A coach and fellow alums, Team Bottcher already has a long list of achievements, including skipping Canada to gold in 2012 at the World Junior Curling Championships, and taking bronze and silver medals with the Golden Bears.

Part of the university's long-term athletic development program, Bottcher said he'll work to balance his careers, but admits that for now, performance on the ice wins out. "I need to know how far I can go with it," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The 'Baby-on-the-way' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

SAFETY

Beemer driver hits 248, could face jail

Police have nabbed a motorist in central Alberta who was clocked driving 248 km/h in a 100 km/h zone — about the same takeoff speed as a Boeing 737 jet airliner.

"I can't think of a speed in recent memory where we have got someone going quite that quick that has been apprehended," provincial sheriff Sgt. Jason Graw said Wednesday.

On May 9 a sheriff activated the radar gun in his cruiser and caught the man driving a

BMW M3 car on Highway 19 south of Edmonton near the Castro Raceway.

Police say the man was driving directly toward the officer and hit the brakes and pulled over once he saw the police car emergency lights.

Graw said the man has been charged with dangerous driving under the Criminal Code and could face jail time if convicted. The name of the man, who is 44, was not released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cancer cases to rise 40% by 2030: Report

HEALTH

Demographics will fuel the increase, says cancer society

The annual number of new cancer diagnoses in Canada will increase by 40 per cent by 2030, the Canadian Cancer Society predicted in a report released Wednesday.

At first blush, that projection seems alarming.

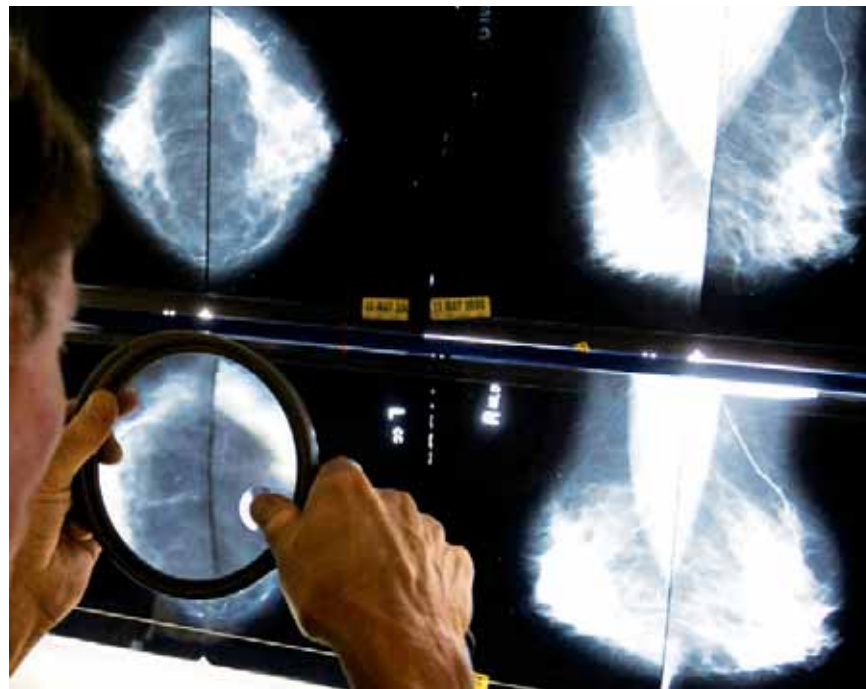
But the cancer society was quick to point out that demographics will fuel the increase, not a heightened risk in developing the disease.

Most cancers are diagnosed in people who are between the ages of 50 and 79, and the massive baby boom generation is now squarely there. As well, the projected growth of Canada's population will contribute to the increase in numbers of cancer cases.

"This is about (the fact that) Canadians are living longer," said Robert Nuttall, the cancer society's assistant director for cancer control policy.

"The population is aging and it's growing. And overall this is going to add to the sheer volume of cancer patients being diagnosed in Canada. But that overall risk, that proportion of Canadians who are diagnosed, isn't going to change over this period."

Neither will the risk of dying from cancer, according to the predictions. Improvements in treatments and screening programs that lead to early diagnosis of some forms of cancer have resulted in a steady decline in the percentage of cancer cases



A radiologist checks mammograms for breast cancer in Los Angeles. The total number of Canadians who will receive a cancer diagnosis will rise over the next 15 years, a report from the Canadian Cancer Society predicts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The population is aging and it's growing. And overall this is going to add to the sheer volume of cancer patients being diagnosed in Canada.

Robert Nuttall, the cancer society's assistant director for cancer control policy

that are fatal.

Given that the projections don't anticipate a rise in individual risk, should Canadians be worried about the estimates? Dr. Eva Grunfeld, a physician scientist with the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research,

said concern should focus on whether the country's health-care systems will be ready to cope with all the additional cases.

"You as an individual, your risk might not have changed. But you want to know that ...

when and if you develop cancer, you're going to be able to have access to your family doctor in order to discuss the symptoms, start to have your diagnostic work-up as quickly as possible, get your treatment and move into the survivorship phase as quickly as possible," said Grunfeld, who was not involved in the preparation of the report.

"If we're not ready it will be a very, very problematic situation."

That is the message the cancer society is trying to get out through the release of this report, which was prepared in

196,900

An estimated 196,900 of new cancer cases will be diagnosed in 2015.

78,000

The estimated number of Canadians who will die from cancer in 2015.

28%

The biggest portion of new cancer cases — 28 per cent — will be diagnosed in people aged 60 to 69, while the highest proportion of cancer deaths — a third — will be in people aged 80 and older.

collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Statistics Canada.

"We need to start investing now," said Nuttall.

"Our organization has been involved in cancer control for more than 75 years now and what we really want to be looking at is: How do we deliver the programs and services to these people?"

The projections were part of the cancer society's annual estimates of case numbers for the year.

The report predicts that by 2030, prostate cancer will be the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada and the volume of annual cases will have increased by 97 per cent.

The total number of female breast cancer cases is expected to rise by 55 per cent over that 25-year period and the number of colorectal cancer patients will increase by 79 per cent. The number of lung cancer cases in 2030 will be 46 per cent higher than the 2005 figure.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Details emerge of diplomat's son's death

A Canadian diplomat's son charged with murder watched attentively Wednesday as the prosecution detailed the blood-soaked scene of a double killing in which his elder brother and another man were shot dead.

Among exhibits shown at the special bail hearing for Marc Wabafiyebazu was surveillance video showing the frantic 15-year-old surrendering to police shortly after the March 30 shooting, and photographs of the body of one of the victims.

Two rows behind, Wabafiyebazu's mother Roxanne Dubé — a veteran diplomat who was appointed Canada's consul general to Miami late last year — sat quietly and with little expression as the proceedings unfolded.

Wabafiyebazu, of Ottawa, has pleaded not guilty to several charges, including felony first-degree murder, which could see him put away for the rest of his days in a state known for its harsh punishment for violent crime.

While the prosecution does not allege he shot anyone, it does allege he and his 17-year-old brother Jean Wabafiyebazu had gone to rip off a drug dealer at an apartment rented by the second victim, Joshua Wright, who was also 17.

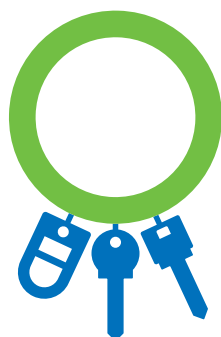
Dubé was expected to testify at the bail hearing.

It's been very difficult, she told The Canadian Press, declining further comment.

It will be up to Justice Teresa Pooler — seated on the bench under a sign reading: We who labour here seek only truth — to decide whether the accused can have bail pending trial, which could start as early as July.

The hearing continues Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The 'Lots-on-the-go' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

Defence criticizes police actions in B.C. terror trial

A Crown prosecutor says a husband-and-wife duo facing terrorism-related charges is "undeniably, undoubtedly and undisputedly" guilty of scheming to blow up the provincial legislature.

However, defence lawyers are adamant that the couple's plot would have had no chance of success had undercover police not propelled it along.

A B.C. Supreme Court jury heard closing submissions on Wednesday, which recapped nearly four months of evidence

presented in the trial of accused terrorists John Nuttall and Amanda Korody.

They're accused of plotting to detonate homemade pressure-cooker bombs on the front lawn of the B.C. legislature lawn during Canada Day festivities two years ago. They were arrested on July 1, 2013, following an elaborate RCMP sting operation and have each pleaded not guilty.

In his address to the jury, Korody's lawyer Mark Jette described his client as the perfect submissive Muslim wife who lived an

isolated life marred by poverty and drug addiction. He said she became the victim of a controlling husband and an overeager RCMP operation intent on "pulling her into their orbit."

Jette asked the jury to question the likelihood that Nuttall and Korody would have been able to accomplish their alleged plot without the support and guidance of the police. He criticized the operation's primary undercover officer as playing a heavy-handed role in guiding the accused. THE CANADIAN PRESS



POMP DUTCH ROYAL VISIT King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands arrive at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Wednesday. The couple is in Canada for a three-day visit. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLITICS

Party leaders clash over MPs' spending

Tom Mulcair, Justin Trudeau and Stephen Harper are duking it out over the allegedly improper use of parliamentary resources for partisan purposes by New Democrat MPs.

The NDP leader insisted Wednesday there's "not a scintilla" of evidence that New Democrats did anything wrong when they used their House of Commons budgets to pay workers in satellite party offices.

"It's just our Liberal and Con-

servative adversaries using their majority to try to frustrate the party that's coming up in the polls and doing well compared to the two old-line parties," Mulcair said.

However, Trudeau said the issue has been boiling for "an awfully long time" — well before the NDP's recent rise in the polls. And the Liberal leader noted it was Commons administrators who determined that New Democrat MPs broke the

rules, calling it "a very serious independent finding."

"What people expect from their leaders is that when you make a mistake, you own up to (it), you apologize for it and you make it right. You fix it," Trudeau said.

Later in the Commons, the Prime Minister asserted that Canadians wonder why Mulcair "continues to justify" improperly using \$3 million in parliamentary funds and why

he's "not being willing to pay it back and not being willing to apologize or reverse course."

The multi-party board of internal economy which polices Commons spending has ordered 68 current and former NDP MPs to repay \$2.75 million for the satellite office scheme, and has also ordered them to repay another \$1.2 million for using free parliamentary mailing privileges to send partisan missives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Purchasing pledge made

DEFENCE

Military to get equipment much faster, minister says

Defence Minister Jason Kenney pledged Tuesday that a new independent panel would reform the military's dysfunctional procurement system.

Kenney said the announcement of the panel's members will be made soon and he said it will mark a major shift in how the Canadian Forces purchases equipment.

"We want sign-off essentially from all the key stakeholders in principle on a project at the front end and an independent panel to affirm that," the minister said in a keynote luncheon speech to about 900 delegates at an international defence industry trade show.

"Once the panel is fully operational, it will make a paradigm shift in the way we conduct defence procurement by enabling greater scrutiny and oversight of project requirements earlier in the procurement process."

Kenney said the panel — that will include a representative from industry — will try to head off the problems that inevitably surface by doing a mandatory, up-front assessment that challenges the requirement of a major project.

The military procurement system has been beset with delays, cancellations and unexpected cost overruns.

Political controversy has surrounded the long-running procurement sagas involving the F-35 stealth fighter jet and fixed-wing, search-and-rescue planes, among others.

It was controversy over those two major projects that led the government to introduce more reporting requirements.

Liberal defence critic Joyce Murray said the Harper government has made many promises to buy new military equipment, but failed to deliver.

Kenney said a third-party review panel will issue a report at the beginning of the procurement process for all projects valued at more than \$100 million to avoid problems after the process is underway.

The panel should help bring "clarity and certainty to the procurement process by challenging the mandatory requirements for projects," he said.

In January, a joint study by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute and the MacDonald-Laurier Institute blamed staffing cuts by both the Conservative government and its Liberal predecessors in the acquisitions branch at National Defence.

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Joyce Murray

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PETS ACUPUNCTURE MAY HELP PAIN Gino Furano and his black lab Chilko, who is undergoing acupuncture treatment in Calgary. Despite skepticism, recent articles suggest there is evidence acupuncture is useful in pain management in some pets. BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS.

Deaf fear loss of debate captions

POLITICS

Federal parties quarrel over TV format of leaders' event

Deaf and hard-of-hearing Canadians fear their needs as voting citizens might be lost in the shuffle in the coming election campaign as the federal parties squabble over the formats and hosts of the leaders' debates.

The proposal by the major TV networks, put to the federal parties, includes closed captioning in both French and English — as has been the case in previous debates.

However, the Conservative Party of Canada has rejected the proposal from the so-called broadcast consortium, which includes CBC/Radio-Canada, Global News and CTV.

As a result, the televised debates are in limbo; it's not clear whether the opposition par-

ties would bother with a faceoff that doesn't include the prime minister.

The Conservatives have emphasized their desire for different formats, citing the fact many Canadians no longer watch traditional TV. But broadcasters are required by regulation to include closed captioning with their programming, even during commercials.

Will new debate proposals from Maclean's Magazine, The Globe and Mail/Google Canada, the Munk Debates and others include services for the hearing impaired?

Rudyard Griffiths, organizer of the Munk Debates, said the organization is looking into closed captioning and sign language, as well as simultaneous French and English translation.

James Roots, executive director of the Canadian Association of the Deaf, said up to ten million Canadians with varying degrees of hearing benefit from closed captioning.

"We certainly are deeply con-



We ... are deeply concerned and distressed by the entire squabble.

James Roots

cerned and distressed by the entire squabble over the proposed federal election debates," Roots said in an email. "Without taking sides in the dispute, we emphasize that all Canadians — not just deaf ones — have a legal and moral right to equal access to the debates, and that this access has traditionally been provided by means of captioning."

Regardless of whether they have hearing difficulties, many new Canadians rely on closed captioning, said Susan Masters of the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

New technology has not always been a good thing for people with hearing loss, she added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LONG-GUN REGISTRY

Concerns over retroactive law akin to angels on a pin: Clement

Treasury Board President Tony Clement says concerns over a Conservative move to retroactively rewrite the law in order to stop an investigation of alleged RCMP wrongdoing are akin to angels dancing on the head of a pin.

The latest omnibus budget bill from the Harper government quietly inserted amendments, backdated to October 2011, that wipe clean any complaints about the handling of long-gun registry data before Parliament passed a bill to end

the registry the following year.

Clement says that since Parliament did eventually pass a law to end the registry, complaints about when that law took effect are simply arcane legal nitpicking.

Federal information commissioner Suzanne Legault issued a special report last week calling the move a "perilous precedent" that could be used to retroactively clear government officials of wrongdoing on everything from election fraud to spending scandals.

She recommended to the attorney general of Canada in March that an investigation be launched into the RCMP's wilful destruction of registry data that was covered by the Access to Information Act — an investigation that has now been taken on by the Ontario Provincial Police.

The Harper government responded by retroactively rewriting the law, backdating the amendments to the day the bill to end the long-gun registry was first introduced in Parlia-

ment, and then burying the changes this month in a 167-page budget bill that will be rammed through Parliament before the summer recess.

Clement, whose portfolio includes overseeing and enforcing Canada's access-to-information law, brushed off Legault's concerns about a future government using the same after-the-fact tactic to clear itself in the face of an active police investigation.

"I don't think it sets any precedent at all," Clement said Wednesday following a Conservative

caucus meeting. "Lookit, Parliament passed a law. The law that was passed by Parliament was no more long-gun registry."

Reporters then pointed out that the new amendments will rewrite history to put the gun registry data destruction law into effect long before it was voted on by Parliament.

"You know, now we're getting into angels dancing on the head of a pin, which lawyers are very good at and Ms. Legault is a lawyer," Clement responded.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

Legal and parliamentary procedure experts say the Conservative move is unprecedented but that it cannot be stopped under a majority government. The Treasury Board president agreed: "The sovereignty of Parliament I think trumps in this case," said Tony Clement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The 'Wanderlust' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

QUEBEC

Libs using intimidation: PKP

Parti Quebecois Leader Pierre Karl Peladeau accused the Liberals of harassment and intimidation on Wednesday for alluding to the interest rates his cable company charges tardy customers.

The debate was triggered by PQ energy critic Bernard Drainville's comment in the national assembly that the province's hydro utility is usuriously charging people rates of 14.4 per cent for late payments.

Hydro-Quebec acts like "Shylock" in charging customers the 14.4 per cent rate, Drainville said

in a reference to the money-lending character in Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice."

Energy Minister Pierre Arcand responded by stating that Videotron, a subsidiary of Quebecor Inc., charges its late-paying customers interest rates of

19.56 per cent.

Peladeau, Quebecor's controlling shareholder, questioned what his telecommunications company had to do with Hydro-Quebec.

He said the Liberals were using harassment and intimidation tactics as a strategy to criticize him.

"I think there will be political consequences," he said about the Liberals' tactics. Peladeau added Quebecers will eventually decide at the voting booth whether they support the government's attitude toward him.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



There will be political consequences.

Pierre Karl Peladeau



U.S. HOUSTON FLOODS Wilber Albarenga, left, and Alfredo Chavez, pump water from the United Orthodox Synagogues of Houston, which suffered extensive damage by flooding from a recent storm Wednesday. GARY CORONADO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More rain in Texas threatens cleanup

NATURAL DISASTER

Flooding some of the worst Houston has ever seen

Homeowners dragged soggy carpet to the curb and mopped up coffee-coloured muck Wednesday after a barrage of storms and floods in Texas and Oklahoma left at least 19 people dead and a dozen others missing.

More rain fell on the hard-hit Houston area, threatening to complicate the cleanup a day after a downpour of nearly a

foot triggered some of the worst flooding the nation's fourth-largest city has ever seen. Hundreds of homes were damaged.

Heavy weather continued in other parts of Texas, with hundreds of people west of Fort Worth told to evacuate along the rising Brazos River and flash flood warnings posted in many areas.

Gadi Shaulsky spent the day cutting wet carpet and padding from his home in Houston's Meyerland section and taking it to the curb. His neighbours were doing the same. A water mark showed that up to six inches of water had seeped into the home.

“That was really frightening. It was just flowing in.”

Jodi Shaulsky

“That was just really frightening. It was just flowing in,” said Shaulsky's wife, Jodi. With tears in her eyes, she added: “It's hard to wrap your head around all that needs to be done.”

Houston Mayor Annise Parker said two people whose boat capsized during a rescue were

missing. Another person was missing in suburban Houston. And in central Texas, crews resumed the search for nine people feared dead after the swollen Blanco River smashed through Wimberley, a small tourist town between San Antonio and Austin, over the Memorial Day weekend.

This has been the wettest month on record for Texas, and there are still several days left. The state climatologist's office said Wednesday that Texas has gotten an average of 7.54 inches of rain in May, breaking the old record of 6.66 inches, set in June 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMANY

Tots born to mom, 65, still in hospital

Doctors say the week-old quadruplets born prematurely to 65-year-old Annegret Raunigk in Berlin are still in intensive care, but have been gaining a little weight and are being given their mother's milk through feeding tubes.

The babies were born during the 26th week of pregnancy at Berlin's Charite Hospital on May 19. Neeta and her three brothers — Dries, Bence and Fjonn — weighed between 655 grams and 960 grams each at birth. Their exact weight today is not known because they are too fragile to be put on a scale.

Neeta is the smallest but is fitter than her three brothers, said Christoph Buehrer, Charite's director of neonatology. She underwent successful surgery this week to close two small holes in her intestines.

All four babies will remain in intensive care for several weeks and are supported by machines helping them

breathe. “Breathing is their most critical vital function,” said Buehrer, adding that it's not clear yet whether the children will have any long-term health issues because of the premature delivery.

Raunigk is believed to be the oldest mother to have ever delivered quadruplets, said Charite's director of obstetrics, Wolfgang Henrich.

The school teacher already has 13 children, aged 9 to 44, from five other fathers. Because egg donation is illegal in Germany, she travelled to Ukraine to have donated, fertilized eggs transferred.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“

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INDONESIA PROTESTERS DEMAND END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST ROHINGYAS IN MYANMAR

Indonesian Muslim protesters burn a mannequin representing Myanmar's radical Buddhist monk Ashin Wirathu during a protest Wednesday demanding an end to the violence against ethnic Rohingyas in Rakhine State, outside the Embassy of Myanmar in Jakarta, Indonesia. In the last three years, hundreds of minority Rohingya Muslims have been killed and hundreds of thousands of others are now living under apartheid-like conditions in crowded camps or forced to flee their homes to avoid persecution in Buddhist-majority Myanmar.

ACHMAD IBRAHIM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FIFA execs facing corruption probe

SOCCER

Decision to award World Cups to Russia, Qatar queried

The U.S. government launched a corruption attack on soccer's global governing body Wednesday, pulling FIFA executives out of a luxury Zurich hotel to face racketeering charges and raiding regional offices in Miami.

Swiss officials also invaded FIFA headquarters, seizing records and computers to investigate whether the decisions to award World Cups to Russia and Qatar were rigged.

Scandals and rumours of deeper corruption have dogged FIFA throughout the 17-year reign of its president, Sepp Blatter, but he was not named in either investigation. He is scheduled to stand Friday for re-election to a fifth term, and the organization said the vote would go ahead as planned, despite the

latest turmoil.

FIFA also ruled out a revote of the World Cup bids won by Russia in 2018 and Qatar in 2022.

"We welcome the actions and the investigations by the U.S. and Swiss authorities and believe that it will help to reinforce measures that FIFA has already taken to root out any wrongdoing in football," Blatter said in a statement.

The organization said it was co-operating fully with the investigation.

Authorities conducted early morning raids in Zurich at FIFA headquarters and the five-star Baur au Lac Hotel downtown in the investigations. In Miami, evidence was seized at the headquarters of CONCACAF, the governing body of North and Central America and the Caribbean, whose past and current presidents were among 14 defendants under indictment for corruption.

Swiss police arrested seven soccer officials at the request of American prosecutors and threatened them with extradition to the U.S. Four other soccer and marketing officials agreed to

66

Two generations of soccer officials ... used their positions ... to solicit bribes from sports marketers.

U.S. Attorney General
Loretta E. Lynch

plead guilty.

American prosecutors said they will seek forfeiture of more than \$151 million the government alleges was illegally obtained. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ BRIBES

The case involves bribes totalling more than \$100 million linked to commercial deals dating back to the 1990s for soccer tournaments in the U.S. and Latin America.

IRAQ

ISIL suicide bombs strike army near Fallujah, killing 17 troops

As Iraqi forces gathered for a major new offensive to try to take back the sprawling Sunni heartland of Anbar province, ISIL militants struck first, unleashing a wave of suicide bombings that killed at least 17 soldiers.

The attacks outside the extremist-held city of Fallujah came just hours after the Iraqi government announced the start of a wide-scale operation to recapture areas under ISIL control in the vast desert province that stretches to the

border with Jordan.

The militants used a sandstorm that engulfed most of Iraq to launch the deadly wave of bombings late Tuesday night, Brig. Gen. Saad Maan Ibrahim, the spokesman for the Joint Military Command, told The Associated Press.

He said it was not clear how many suicide attackers were involved in the bombings but they struck from multiple directions at the Iraqi troops, who were gath-

ered near a water control station and a lock system on a canal between the Euphrates River and Lake Tharthar as they prepared to deploy.

Last month, the water station near Fallujah fell into the hands of the militants following attacks that also included multiple suicide bombings that killed a general commanding the 1st Division and a dozen other officers and soldiers, Ibrahim said.

Iraqi government forces retook the station a few days

later. Fallujah lies to the east of the Anbar provincial capital of Ramadi, which was captured 10 days ago by the ISIL militants in a major defeat for Iraqi troops.

The military, humiliated last year when it crumbled in the face of the militant onslaught in the city of Mosul, had regained some momentum after its victory in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit last month. The campaign to retake Anbar, which is said to be backed by Shiite

militias and pro-government Sunni fighters, is deemed critical in regaining momentum in the fight against ISIL.

The capture of Ramadi, followed only days later by the fall of the ancient Syrian town of Palmyra, showed ISIL's ability to advance in both countries despite months of U.S.-led airstrikes. Capt. Andrew Caulk, a U.S. Air Force spokesman in Qatar, told The Associated Press it will continue to provide air support "to government-con-

trolled Iraqi forces" throughout the country, including near Ramadi, where it has been carrying out airstrikes for several months.

In Palmyra, Syrian activists said ISIL militants shot dead a group of detainees in the Roman theatre in the town's ancient ruins after gathering people to watch. They said ISIL gunmen killed at least 15 men after accusing them of having fought with President Bashar Assad's troops.

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GREECE 12,000 ILLEGALS ARRESTED. Migrants wash at a camp on the Greek island of Kos. Greece and Italy are flooded with refugees fleeing the fighting in Syria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chimp research equated to slavery

ANIMAL RIGHTS

Lawyer claims animals are 'in solitary confinement'

A lawyer seeking to free two chimpanzees from a state university told a judge Wednesday that their confinement for research purposes is akin to slavery, the involuntary detention of mentally ill people and imprisonment.

Steven Wise, an attorney with the Nonhuman Rights Project, told Manhattan Supreme

Court Judge Barbara Jaffe in a nearly two-hour hearing that Hercules and Leo are "autonomous and self-determining beings" who should be granted a writ of habeas corpus and be moved from Stony Brook University on Long Island to a sanctuary in Florida.

"They're essentially in solitary confinement," Wise told the judge before a crowd of about 100 packed into the Manhattan courtroom.

"This is what we do to the worst human criminal."

The eight-year-old chimps, who were not at the hearing, are used for locomotion studies at Stony Brook.

Christopher Coulston, an assistant state attorney general representing the university, argued that the case was meritless on procedural grounds because the venue was improper and because granting the chimps personhood would create a slippery slope regarding the rights of other animals.

In his arguments, Wise repeatedly cited legal decisions that granted the writ of habeas corpus to groups historically denied it — including to Native Americans and blacks during the 1800s.

Jaffe did not issue a decision in the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The 'Family-fun-time' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

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Minister, lawmaker feud bitterly in leaked video

IRAN

Officials sling harsh words as nuclear talks continue

Amid a new round of Iran nuclear talks, Iranians have been captivated this week by a leaked video showing a vehement argument between a hard-line lawmaker and the country's foreign minister.

Differing statements from Iranian officials over what's acceptable for Tehran at the talks

with six world powers have accompanied the negotiations since the start of international attempts nearly a decade ago to reach a diplomatic solution over Iran's contested nuclear program. Hard-liners fear that negotiators are betraying Iran's interests by being too conciliatory, while moderates chastise their opponents for jeopardizing the talks with unrealistic demands.

But Iranians usually are not privy to the kind of bitter recriminations that a video posted on social media Monday has revealed. It shows Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif



We are not constrained by time... We are obligated to reach a good deal with all the ideal details. It does not matter how long it takes.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi

and hard-line lawmaker Mahdi Kouchakzadeh in a heated exchange, apparently at the end of a closed session of parliament.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei "calls you a traitor," Kouchakzadeh says. "I say this from his tongue."

But Zarif, his face red with anger, berates the lawmaker for

daring to speak for Khamenei. "You are damned dead wrong," he declares.

The footage appears to have been filmed with a mobile phone and leaked by a lawmaker. Several legislators are demanding that the incident be investigated and the leaker be prosecuted.

The video was posted with

the talks moving closer to what is supposed to be an end of June deadline for a deal. As they resumed Wednesday in Vienna, Khamenei indirectly backed Zarif, who has been Iran's lead negotiator at previous sessions and is expected to rejoin the negotiators at a later stage.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi is leading his country's delegation at the present round, which also brings U.S. Under Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and officials representing Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany to the table.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPAN

Nuclear plant to reopen

A nuclear plant in southern Japan on Wednesday obtained the final permit needed to restart its reactors, paving the way for it to become the first to go back online under new safety standards introduced after the 2011 Fukushima disaster.

All of Japan's more than 40 reactors are currently offline for repairs or safety inspections.

The two units at the Sendai nuclear power plant are among 24 reactors seeking to restart, as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's pro-business government tries to put as many back online as possible.

The Nuclear Regulation Authority approved the Sendai plant's operational safety plans, the last step of a three-part screening process.

The plant's safety program includes emergency response plans in case of fire, floods or other natural disasters, or a serious accident.

The plant, owned by Kyushu Electric Power Co., won approval in September of the safety of its reactors and other equipment under tighter rules set after a powerful 2011 earthquake and tsunami decimated the Fukushima nuclear plant in northeastern Japan.

While local municipalities have already approved the Sendai plant's restart, many residents oppose the plan, citing potential danger from active volcanos in the region.

Kyushu Electric hopes to restart one reactor at the Sendai plant in late July after on-site tests and training and the other in late September, though there could be some delays.

Nuclear Regulation Authority Chairman Shunichi Tanaka reminded the utility of the importance of safety education and training for plant workers after a multi-year stoppage. Kyushu Electric vowed to further improve the emergency response training of its workers and ensure safety.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



U.K. THE QUEEN'S SPEECH Queen Elizabeth II holds hands with Prince Philip after delivering the Queen's Speech during the State Opening of Parliament in London, Wednesday. The Queen's Speech outlines her government's legislative plans for the forthcoming parliamentary year. ALASTAIR GRANT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The 'Keep-in-touch' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

U.S.A.

Convict's valuables awarded to victims

Authorities say federal prosecutors are preparing to distribute nearly \$822,000 seized from former crime boss James (Whitey) Bulger to the families of his murder victims and people he extorted.

The Boston Globe reports that prosecutors filed documents in federal court on Tuesday indicating that Bulger's cash, guns, jewelry and other items are in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service in preparation for a final forfeiture

order. They were taken from Bulger's California apartment.

U.S. Attorney Carmen M. Ortiz's spokeswoman Christina Dilorio-Sterling said prosecutors have been "moving forward" in recent weeks to provide the funds to the families.

The 84-year-old Bulger was sentenced Nov. 14 to life in prison. He was found guilty in August by a federal jury in 11 killings, along with dozens of other crimes, including shake-downs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government says nuclear energy is vital for resource-poor Japan's economy. It is now finalizing plans for Japan's long-term energy mix and is seeking to have nuclear energy supply about 20 to 22 per cent of its energy needs in 2030, although public opinion remains divided. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Giant corporations mentor small rivals

CORPORATE TRENDS

Executives say they can learn from newer competitors

Imagine a world where David and Goliath are best buds. Well, it's becoming reality more frequently in the business world.

Boston Beer Co., maker of Sam Adams, mentors and lends money to small craft brewers. It hopes their sales will grow and take grocery store shelf space from brands like Budweiser, Miller and Coors.

Instead of feeling threatened and trying to crush smaller rivals that could take revenue from them, corporations like Microsoft Corp., Boston Beer and General Mills Inc. are mentoring and loaning money to smaller companies. It's an arrangement that has benefits for both sides.

"They're not trying to take away the competitive advantage of small businesses but trying to make it work for them," says Leonard Greenhalgh, a management professor at Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business.

Executives at big corpora-



Mark Hirsch, owner of Creative Worx, left, and Dan Bloom, owner of Slope, pose in the offices of Microsoft Ventures in Seattle. As part of the Ventures program, Hirsch and Bloom get work space, technical advice and feedback from Microsoft employees. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tions are starting to realize they can learn from younger and smaller competitors, according to a survey by Business Performance Innovation Network, a professional net-

working organization.

More than half the executives surveyed said large companies can learn from smaller competitors about focusing on and listening to what cus-

tomers say they need. A third said large companies can learn about being willing to fail and take non-traditional approaches from smaller rivals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOSSIL FUEL

Divestment call falling on deaf ears in Canada

Scott Vrooman says he wants Dalhousie University and Queen's University to stop investing in fossil fuel companies — so much that he's willing to tear up his degrees from the institutions if they don't change their policies.

The writer and comedian made the promise to pressure the schools to sign on to a global movement calling for a total divestment of fossil fuels.

"Primarily it's a moral argument, where if you're an institution that claims to be working in the public interest, you can't do that and also be in-

vested in fossil fuels, because torching the climate isn't in the public interest," said Vrooman.

The fossil fuel divestment movement, started by environmental group 350.org in November 2012, has started to gain traction abroad but so far failed to take hold in Canada.

Last fall, Dalhousie University rejected calls to divest of fossil fuels, while the University of Calgary pre-emptively said it was not looking at making changes to its investments in the energy industry.

Concordia University has promised to make \$5 million of its \$130 million endowment fossil-free, but no Canadian university has actually signed on to fully getting rid of its fossil fuel investments.

Outside Canada, hundreds of colleges, cities, foundations and religious groups have committed to some degree.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



You can't do that ... because torching the climate isn't in the public interest,

Scott Vrooman



IN BRIEF

Interest rates stay same

The Bank of Canada said Wednesday it is keeping its trendsetting interest rate locked at 0.75 per cent because inflation has been in line with projections and consumption has held up relatively well — even with the negative effects of lower oil prices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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HAMILTON, ONT.

City fighting super mailboxes

Local governments should have a say in the placement of large community mailboxes even if federal law states they can go on municipal property, a lawyer for the City of Hamilton argued in court Wednesday.

Canada Post and Hamilton are locking horns over a local bylaw that requires Canada Post to obtain a \$200 permit per site to install the mailboxes on municipal land.

The Crown corporation argues the bylaw infringes on federal rules that grant Canada Post final say over the location of mail receptacles.

It also says Hamilton officials had the chance to weigh in on where the mailboxes would go but chose not to engage.

The city's lawyer told a Hamilton court the dispute isn't about wresting control away from Canada Post, but about

ensuring the city has a role to play, which she called "a question of national importance."

The bylaw was put in place to formalize the consultation process and set out specific criteria with which to review the proposed sites, Justyna Hidalgo said. "The city isn't choosing a location, it's just confirming the location chosen by Canada Post," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

McDonald's tweaks cooking

McDonald's is tweaking how it cooks its burgers in hopes of winning back customers.

To improve the taste of its food, the chain is toasting its buns longer so sandwiches will be warmer, said McDonald's CEO Steve Easterbrook at the Bernstein's Strategic Decisions Conference in New York. He also said the company is changing the way it sears and grills its beef so that the

patties are juicier.

"It's these little things that add up to big differences for our customers," he said.

Easterbrook, who stepped into his role March 1, said the changes are part of the company's recommitment to "tastier food across the menu." The remarks come after Easterbrook laid out the initial steps for turning around the company's performance earlier this

month. Those plans include a restructuring of the company intended to strip away layers of bureaucracy, and an acceleration of refranchising restaurants around the world.

During the presentation, Easterbrook also said the company will stop reporting monthly sales results. It said June will be the last month for which it reports sales.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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The 'Help-your-community' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

“People who don’t think Vancouver is boring, like boring.”

Vancouver is the bimbo of Canada. Good-looking, sporting a smile, the city makes you feel better just by looking at it. Except the more time you spend together, the more you realize no one’s home. As in, they’ve hit the mountains for the weekend.

The Economist’s travel blogger, Gulliver, recently dubbed the city (and Vienna and Geneva) “mind-numbingly boring.”

In a column bemoaning the loss of the gritty city, he calls Vancouver highly livable and, thus, highly dull, with little danger and few surprises.

That left the mayor indignant.

“It’s true that Vancouver lacks the stressful vibe of cities where guns, muggers and freeways threaten one’s daily existence,” Mayor Gregor Robertson told media, but it compensates with “deep culture, breathtaking nature and intense recreation.”

He’s likely unaware of how boring “intense recreation” sounds. And his point — hey, we have nature! — isn’t the point of a city at all.

Vancouver is where people sleep between gnarly mountain bike rides and kitesurfing. It lacks a concentration of urban wildlife — the guy with a giant pet lizard clinging to his shirt, the 24-hour gay club you notice thanks to smokers huddled by an unmarked door at 8 a.m. and then at 11 a.m.

The piano-playing bartender who’ll soon be hosting a concert in his living room.

Yes, Vancouver has the Downtown Eastside. But one very dynamic neighbourhood doesn’t make an adventurous city. Even the underground music scene was literally forced into underground parkades after bylaws (more plentiful than Lululemon pants) closed down a slew of music venues, spawning the 2010 documentary No Fun City.

Maybe it’s still young, but the city lacks soul. Even my Vancouverite brother agrees: “It’s nice, but it lacks an edge. Everyone’s like, ‘Aren’t you happy all the time? Isn’t this wicked?’ It’s like no, it’s not a wicked day. It sucks.” (He said this before heading out for an evening of “killer” sailing).

People who don’t think Vancouver is boring, like boring. Unlike Gulliver, they’re not excited by mystery. Pleasant, even bland, is good.

Vancouver is like the pretty, popular kids in high school who lack substance, my sister-in-law noted. Research has backed up this cliché: beautiful people strive for conformity and self-promotion over independence.

Sound like anyone you know, Vancouver?

It’s OK, though, because no one can have it all. You’ve got the looks (and the playtime that goes with them). Leave mystery to the rest of us.

Pensions: Inside the flip-flop

POLITICS

Chantal Hébert



In the dying days of a third mandate, federal Finance Minister Joe Oliver is about to spend the last summer before the October election consulting the provinces on a public pension reform that all governments, including his own, dismissed as unworkable five years ago.

When the idea of allowing Canadians to make supplementary voluntary contributions to the Canada Pension Plan in order to enhance their retirement benefits came up in 2010, former MP Ted Menzies was the parliamentary secretary to the minister of finance, Jim Flaherty.

Both trashed the notion. “We have ruled out ideas we collectively determined cannot work,” Menzies told the House of Commons. “The verdict was unanimous. This was not a good idea.”

“We reject a voluntary plan because that would very much disturb the work of the Canada Pension Plan, which operates on a different basis,” Flaherty explained.

What the then-finance minister had in mind was, in his own words, “a modest, phased-in increase on the mandatory side.”

Ottawa and the provinces spent the following years discussing pension reform until Flaherty summarily shut

down the talks in December 2013. By then a number of provinces were sold on increased mandatory contributions to the CPP and an attending expansion of pension benefits. Indeed, Ontario’s Liberal government had signalled that it was ready to go it alone.

If Flaherty needed a political incentive to walk away from the federal-provincial table, that Ontario commitment was it. At the time, Conservative strategists believed (wrongly) that the provincial Liberals would be clobbered at the polls if they went ahead with a supplementary Ontario pension plan.

As of the termination of the federal-provincial talks, Flaherty’s initial goal of raising the mandatory contributions became — in the words of his own government — a “job-killing, economy-de-stabilizing, pension-tax hike.” The rhetoric endures to this day.

But it was only on Tuesday that Harper’s government came full circle and embraced the voluntary plan it had argued against in the past.

The last federal budget was silent on pension reform. The net result of that omission is that when Oliver comes calling in the provincial capitals this summer, it will mainly be in his capacity as the Conservative candidate for the Toronto riding of Eglinton-Lawrence.

He will be peddling a Conservative election promise.

One of the many provincial venues where he can expect a cool reception is Queen’s Park.

The reality is that Canadians do not lack for vehicles that promote voluntary pension-building savings, but millions of them do not use them and end up not setting enough money aside for a decent retirement.

In contrast with Oliver’s scheme — which is geared to those who do save — the proposed Ontario plan addresses that fundamental issue. And, in contrast with Oliver, Premier Kathleen Wynne has secured an electoral mandate to implement it.

Still, the ruling Conservatives expect that the voluntary nature of their proposal will make it an easier sell on the campaign trail than the opposition parties’ contention that a universal increase in contributions (and benefits) is in order.

It may help fend off the perception that their last budget — with the doubling of contributions to tax-free savings accounts (TFSAs) — was crafted to benefit the more affluent few rather than the more cash-strapped majority of working Canadians.

But it also sends a different, less attractive, message about the current Conservative mindset. In order to regain momentum in voting intentions and make it back to the magic threshold of a majority victory, the government is scrambling for rabbits

Canadians do not lack for vehicles that promote voluntary pension-building savings, but millions of them do not use them and end up not setting enough money aside for a decent retirement.

— whether they are dead or alive — to pull out of its hat.

On Tuesday, the rabbit took the shape of a summer tour of the deserted provincial legislatures designed to create the appearance of action on pension reform.

On Monday, National Post columnist John Ivison reported that another GST cut is under consideration.

That too never came up in the April budget, and for good reason. There is nothing in the latest fiscal forecast presented by the Harper government that suggests it can afford the \$7-billion price tag of another GST cut anytime soon, if ever.

Increasingly it seems the Conservative party is ready to make election promises that the Conservative government knows it can’t or should not implement.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

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How a porn star is born

NETFLIX

**Documentary
digs deep into
why women
choose the sex
industry**



**Ned
Ehrbar**
Metro | Life

Hot Girls Wanted directors Jill Bauer and Ronna Gradus stumbled upon the subject of their Sundance-lauded documentary completely by accident. The duo were looking to follow up on 2012's *Sexy Baby* (which explored how pop culture, pornography and social media affect young women) by exploring the male version of that experience. But in their research, a much more interesting story dropped in their laps.

"We ended up getting access to a porn recruiter's house in Miami," Gradus explains, about the origins of the doc that debuts Friday on Netflix. "There's this recruiter, he posts ads on Craigslist and then small-town girls who want to get out of their towns click on these ads and get a free plane ticket to Miami and then a week later they're on a porn set. We just thought, 'Whoa, this is the story.' The boy version of *Sexy Baby* is on the back burner, and we just ran with this one."

Given that two feature documentaries in a row for Gradus



A still from *Hot Girls Wanted*, an upcoming Netflix documentary by directors Jill Bauer and Ronna Gradus and produced by Rashida Jones. NETFLIX

and Bauer have brought them into contact with the adult film world, they've become unexpected experts in the field, able to chart the changes to the industry. "The way that porn is being consumed online is the death of the porn studios," Bauer says. "A full-length feature porn film barely exists anymore. So much porn is free, so it doesn't pay for these companies

to put a lot of money into production. This generation that's grown up with watching porn clips, would they even have the patience to watch a narrative story unfold? Maybe not, I don't know."

The directing duo has been trying to get to the bottom of central question of why so many young girls go in for pro-am porn in the first place.

"There's not so much of a stigma now," Gradus admits. "But also, they are impulsive. They're 18, they don't think about it, they don't think that their dad's friend from work is going to have seen them. If the legal age that a girl could do this was 21 — the drinking age — it would probably be a huge bummer for the porn industry, I would just imagine."

Bauer concurs, but thinks there's another factor at work that has a lot to do with Kim Kardashian. "They feel a little bit of protection, naively. Like, 'There are so many girls, nobody's going to find me,'" Bauer says. "But of course everybody back home always finds out. But also they've grown up in a time when famous people made sex tapes."

“

If the legal age that a girl could do this (porn) was 21 ... it would probably be a huge bummer for the porn industry.

Director Ronna Gradus

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Dating with genital herpes

SEX INFORMATION

Two women share their struggle to find love after STI diagnosis



Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Amanda had just started dating again after ending her marriage when she found out she had genital herpes.

The 30-year-old from Vancouver, whose name has been changed to protect her privacy, thought she would never find love again.

"I was totally devastated," she told Metro. "I went through a grieving process and cut myself off from everyone for about a month."

Genital herpes is a common sexually transmitted infection. According to data collected through the Canadian Health Measures Survey, as many as one in seven Canadians aged 14 to 59 may be infected by herpes simplex virus 2, one of two viruses responsible for the infection.

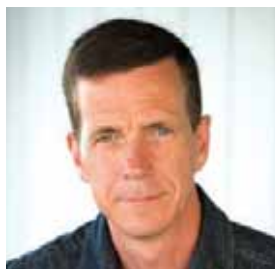
Compared to many other sexually transmitted infections, herpes is relatively harmless. The infection may cause painful sores, a slight fever, swollen lymph nodes and body aches, but in many cases, people don't experience any symptoms. Only in extremely rare cases can the virus result in serious infections.

Still, herpes has a social stigma attached to it that for many sufferers is worse than the actual infection. According to a 2006 online poll conducted by pharmaceutical company Novartis, the stigma surrounding



The stigma is simply unjustified

Alex McKay, Sex Information and Education Council of Canada



Alex McKay, executive director of the Sex Information and Education Council of Canada, says the stigma still attached to herpes is "rooted in ignorance." CONTRIBUTED

herpes is second only to HIV.

Alex McKay, executive director of the Sex Information and Education Council of Canada, blames the stigma attached to herpes on ignorance.

"The stigma is simply unjustified," he said. "It is by and large rooted in ignorance. The vast majority of Canadians have very little, if any, understanding of ... herpes."

McKay said the percentage of the population with herpes is "huge," but most people don't know they carry the virus. While having many sexual partners does carry increased risks of acquiring any STI, herpes can spread between partners in long-term relationships just as easily, he said.

"Many of the people who may be making jokes about herpes may in fact have it themselves and they are unaware of it," said McKay. "The idea that people who have active genital herpes infections acquired it either through pro-

1 in 7

AS MANY AS ONE IN SEVEN CANADIANS AGED 14 TO 59 MAY BE INFECTED WITH HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 2 VIRUS

94%

NINETY-FOUR PER CENT OF PEOPLE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR ANTIBODIES AGAINST HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 2 VIRUS WERE UNAWARE OF THEIR STATUS

6%

ONLY SIX PER CENT OF CANADIANS WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR HERPES SIMPLEX TYPE 2 VIRUS WERE AWARE THAT THEY CARRIED THE VIRUS

miscuous sexual behaviour is completely false."

That was the case for Melanie, 32, of Kingston, Ont., who became infected with herpes during a two-year relationship with the man she thought she would marry.

Melanie, whose name has also been changed to protect her privacy, said her ex-boyfriend told her soon after they started dating that he had herpes. Despite taking steps to prevent transmission, she also became infected.

When the relationship ended, Melanie said she now faced the daunting task of having

to disclose her infection to potential new partners. For two years, she didn't date, and when she finally did, Melanie said she felt she had to justify how she became infected.

"It has such a negative connotation with it, of being promiscuous or taking risks," she said. "That's the hard part."

Vancouver's Amanda says she tried using a dating website that caters to people with genital herpes but found the selection of potential partners to be limited.

"The most frustrating thing is that in our dating culture, it's normal to just jump into

bed with people you hardly know," she said. "And sometimes I have to tell them (I have herpes) before I am ready to because of that."

After her diagnosis, Amanda said she felt little in the way of support due to the stigma.

She reached out to friends and family but said she felt people didn't really understand what she was going through. Others "weren't all that sympathetic," she said. Even her doctor brushed off her request for advice, telling her to look on the Internet for information.

Frustrated, Amanda said it wasn't until she found a local support group that she finally realized it would be possible to date again.

Amanda said she hopes sharing her story can help inform more people about herpes and help break down the stigma.

"Herpes itself is such an insignificant illness," she said, "but it causes so much pain because of all of the social barriers caused by it."

+ VIRUS FACTS

What is herpes and how common is it?

Herpes is an infection caused by the herpes simplex virus, or HSV.

There are two types of HSV that cause infections. HSV-1 generally causes oral herpes, commonly known as cold sores, while HSV-2 causes genital herpes.

However, there is mixing between the two, with HSV-2 causing oral herpes and HSV-1 causing genital herpes, said Dr. Jason Wong, physician epidemiologist at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.



Condom use reduces but does not eliminate the risk of infection. ISTOCK

Although condom use reduces the risk of contracting the virus, which spreads through skin-to-skin contact even when sores aren't present, it does not eliminate the risk of infection.

When someone becomes infected, Wong said the virus lives in the nerves where it stays dormant most of the time.

Occasionally, the virus becomes active — usually triggered by stress — and travels to the surface of the skin where it reproduces itself, Wong said.

That can result in a painful sore on the skin, he said, but sometimes a person does not have any symptoms. That makes it difficult to estimate the prevalence of herpes infection, he said.

According to data collected as part of the 2009 to 2011 Canadian Health Measures Survey, 13.6 per cent — or one in seven — Canadians aged 14 to 59 have antibodies against HSV-2. Still, 94 per cent of those who tested positive were unaware of their status.

Disclaimer: Although both women interviewed for this feature agreed the stigma surrounding herpes should be broken down, both requested to be quoted as anonymous sources as they feared for the repercussions of speaking publicly about their infections.

Get grunge-y with wear and tear trend

DISTRESSED TO IMPRESS

Holes in tops, ripped jeans can be part of a refined look

The resurgence of '90s grunge-inspired fashions has broadened beyond ripped jeans with a wide assortment of apparel showing noticeable signs of wear and tear.

Consumers seeking an edgier look are gravitating towards distressed and destroyed garments like ready-made knee-baring denim and shirts bearing holes and cut-outs.

High-profile stars have embraced the retro revival, with Beyoncé, Rihanna, Kanye West and One Direction's Harry Styles all spotted sporting ripped jeans in a range of washes.

Christie Reszel, image consultant with Fashion Translated, said purchasing distressed clothing may appeal to those who want the feel of their favourite worn-in sweater without worrying about the garment falling apart.

"You get that same soft, comfortable fabric and luxury appeal with something that's got maybe more strategically placed holes ... It's got a little bit more refinement to it."

Daniel Carman, co-owner

of Over The Rainbow, a premium denim boutique in Toronto, said there has been a lot of rips and use of distressing in denim this season.

"It's really exciting because it breaks the standard clean norm that we've been used to seeing in the past couple of years, and it's been growing because people just want something new and different."

Carman said considerable work goes into making holes, raises and etches in the material to achieve the weathered look. But despite its frayed, worn-in appearance, he said there isn't a whole lot of difference when it comes to caring for distressed denim compared to "clean" jeans.

"It really depends on how the customer wears the product," said Carman.

"It's going to go through the same wear cycle as any

66

It's really exciting because it breaks the standard clean norm that we've been used to seeing in the past couple of years.

Daniel Carman, co-owner of premium denim boutique Over The Rainbow

normal jean ... I think it's common sense if there's a hole in a jean, you have to be careful where you put your foot because you might create a bigger hole."

While some may be unsure of how to pull off wearing shredded styles, Reszel suggested opting to wear either a top or bottom that's distressed — but not simultaneously.

"Of course, you can wear two at the same time, but that's more of a very heavy trended look and it's a lot easier to make a mistake with putting that look together — so it's easier to look sloppy."

As with any type of clothing, fit is always king, Reszel noted.

"If you can find something that flatters your body type and flatters your silhouette, it really doesn't matter what you put on, it's going to look amazing."

Canadian Living fashion and beauty director Julia McEwen said for those employed in a more creative environment, distressed garments could be an option for the workplace — with a few caveats.

"If you're seeing more skin than jean, it's absolutely not appropriate for the office," she said.

"However, if you have a few strategically placed rips in certain areas — maybe nothing close to the butt, maybe more on the

knees, just a few little slices — then I think you can definitely sneak it in by pairing it with ... a very crisp oxford shirt. So you have that nice juxtaposition going on of something very casual with something that is more posh."

McEwen suggested women can polish off their ensemble with a pair of strappy sandals or bright pumps.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Right: Fashion blogger Christina Caradona attends the PANDORA Jewelry Experience #ArtofYou in Palm Springs, Calif.
Left: A model wears the PANDORA Jewelry Look of the Day from Siwy Denim. GETTY IMAGES



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Pet owners embrace alt treatments

HOLISTIC HEALTH

Practitioners say therapies work the same way as they do on humans

Chilko has seen better days.

A good walk for the 15-year-old black lab is now 18 to 24 metres. The grey hair on his chin is a testament to his advanced age.

Owner Gino Furano isn't willing to say goodbye to his constant companion just yet and has embraced a holistic approach to the painful ravages of his dog's old age.

Furano has been bringing Chilko to the Calgary Holistic Veterinary Clinic for acupuncture for three years and says the hour-long sessions appear to be working.

"Most of the time he'll just fall asleep," says Furano, sitting on the floor with Chilko's head in his lap.

"When we first brought him in, we noticed a significant change in his mobility. Then there was arthritis somewhere on his right side. He's still mobile. He's eating. He's happy and he's doing really, really well," Furano says.

"The acupuncture relieves some of the stress. Now I just think he has a lot of aches and pains in his joints. This is just quality of life now."

Chilko barely seems to notice when veterinarian Dr. Yanhui Qi inserted needles and hooks them up to a low-level electrical current.

"It works the same as on humans," Qi says. "We know that it's working by observing

after the treatment if there is less pain and they are moving easier."

The cost is \$220 for the initial consultation and treatment. Follow-up treatments run between \$73 and \$100.

Qi grew up in rural China

where he says the use of acupuncture has been used on horses and cattle for thousands of years.

It's more rare in North America where the efficacy of animal acupuncture has been questioned. But recent articles



More and more pet owners are seeking alternative treatments for their sick pets.

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suggest there is evidence it is useful in pain management in cats and dogs.

"There is a solid and still growing body of evidence for the use of acupuncture for the treatment of pain in veterinary medicine to the extent that it is now an accepted treatment ... for painful animals," read the joint guidelines from the American Animal Hospital Association and American Association of Feline Practitioners.

"When I started at this clinic 16 years ago, people were skeptical, but now more and more people want to try this kind of treatment for their animals," Qi says. "With acupuncture we are able to save animals and improve the quality of their lives."

Miki Zahner brought in her big Maine coon cat named Tony after he injured a ligament in his leg in a tussle with another cat.

"He's felt a lot better. He's no longer limping," says Zahner.

"I think he's only had three treatments. He's jumping again and so he's doing just fine," she says. "He falls asleep during it."

Zahner became a believer after bringing in another cat for acupuncture several years ago.

"When (Qi) first mentioned it to me I kind of rolled my eyes at him," she says. "But the treatments were fantastic."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OPTIONS

Cat reiki, dog acupuncture and bunny X-rays

Acupuncture is not the only human-type health care available to pets. Some other medical services include:

Physiotherapy: Can achieve similar benefits seen in human physical rehabilitation to restore function after surgery or injuries, reduce pain and inflammation or improve gen-

eral well-being in old age. It can include hydrotherapy (exercises or treadmills in water), gentle stretching and manipulation of limbs (yoga), massage and simple exercises.

Dental care: Dog and cat owners are urged to brush Fido and Fluffy's teeth regularly. That's not always easy,

so veterinarians specializing in animal dentistry can provide dental cleanings, extractions, root canals and crowns.

Diagnostic imaging: Includes X-rays, CT scans, ultrasounds and magnetic resonance imaging (MRIs).

Radiation therapy: Uses com-

plex equipment to shrink or destroy cancerous cells. Usually administered over a number of weeks, depending on the size and nature of the tumour.

Radioiodine therapy: An option instead of medication or surgery to treat hyperthyroidism. Involves injection of radioactive iodine. It can only be

performed at specialized veterinary centres.

Diabetes treatment: Insulin injections administered by owners are considered the benchmark therapy. The treatment involves careful monitoring.

Major surgeries: Some of the same operations performed on

people can be performed on animals, including pacemaker implants and kidney transplants.

Reiki: Channels healing energy through the hands to the animal to relieve pain and provide calming influence. Some practitioners make house calls. Cats seem to be especially receptive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Upskirt pictures at centre of legal battle



Oregon lawmakers have advanced a measure barring people from sneakily taking photos up women's skirts. ISTOCK

OREGON

Another U.S. state moves to outlaw tactic

Oregon lawmakers this week advanced a proposal aimed at closing a loophole in state privacy laws that recently let a man go unpunished after he took photographs up a teenager's skirt.

The state Senate unanimously passed the bill, which would make it a misdemeanour to surreptitiously take photos up women's dresses without their consent. A teachers union proposed the measure after a student took so-called upskirt cellphone photos of an educator and shared them online.

The Senate vote came three months after an Oregon judge ruled a 61-year-old man did nothing illegal when he snapped photos up a teen's skirt in a Target store.

"You've probably seen in the news reports that currently the tactic of what's known as upskirting is not covered for various reasons," said Sen. Floyd Prozanski, a Eugene Democrat. "This bill will, in fact, cover the infractions, the conduct and hold people accountable for that."

The judge in the Target case said that while the act was lewd and appalling, it didn't violate the state's existing voyeurism laws because the girl was clothed and in a public place.

Laurie Wimmer, an Oregon Education Association lobbyist, has said her organization proposed the bill in response to an incident a year ago involving teacher Dana Lovejoy.

In February, Lovejoy testified in favour of the measure before a House committee. She wore the

same long, black dress she had on when the incident happened.

Lovejoy told lawmakers that during one of her classes last May, a middle school student stuck a camera phone under her skirt as she leaned over to help other students.

The student who took the images then disseminated them to classmates over various social media networks.

"Upon learning what happened I felt immediately in shock and violated. Not only was I photographed without my consent, not only was it of my genital area, but the majority of the school had seen it before I was even aware it existed," Lovejoy told the House Committee on Judiciary.



Our laws have not kept up with technology.

Teacher Dana Lovejoy, who was the target of a student's upskirt photos

Several other states — including Kentucky, Florida, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania — have passed measures outlawing clandestine upskirt photos, though a similar bill in Wisconsin has stalled in the Senate.

The Massachusetts legislation also was aimed at closing a gap in privacy laws. It was passed two days after the state's highest court ruled a man who took cellphone photos up the skirts of female subway passengers in Boston was not violating state laws as written.

The Oregon proposal heads back to the House for consensus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Maybe think twice before swiping right. ISTOCK

RHODE ISLAND

Tinder to blame for rise in STDs: Officials

Rhode Island, the smallest state in the union, is freaking out because STD rates have risen. The state blames hookup apps like Tinder for having a hand in the increase.

CNN reports that: "Between 2013 and 2014, cases of syphilis grew by 79 per cent. HIV infections were up 33 per cent and gonorrhea cases increased by 30 per cent. STD cases for young adults are growing at a faster rate than the rest of the population."

And it's all because you both swiped right.

This isn't the first time the Internet has been blamed for

16%

Craigslist was found to have helped push a 16 per cent increase in HIV infections, according to a study from New York University.

aiding in the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

A study from New Zealand found that Grinder, a gay hookup app, was linked with more than half of all new syphilis cases in 2012. MATT LEE/METRO NEW YORK



TOUR TRAGEDY

U2 mourn 'irreplaceable' tour manager

U2's longtime tour manager died Wednesday in Los Angeles, where the Irish rockers are playing a series of concerts, the band said.

Dennis Sheehan, who was in his late 60s, was pronounced dead in his hotel in West Hollywood, where paramedics were called around 5:30 am to treat a person for a reported cardiac arrest, TMZ said.

"We've lost a family member, we're still taking it in," said U2 frontman Bono in a statement issued by the band's publicist.

"He wasn't just a legend in the music business, he was a legend in our band. He is irreplaceable."

Sheehan had worked for U2 for more than 30 years, and had also worked with other rock legends including Led Zeppelin, Iggy Pop, Patti Smith and Lou Reed, TMZ reported. AFP

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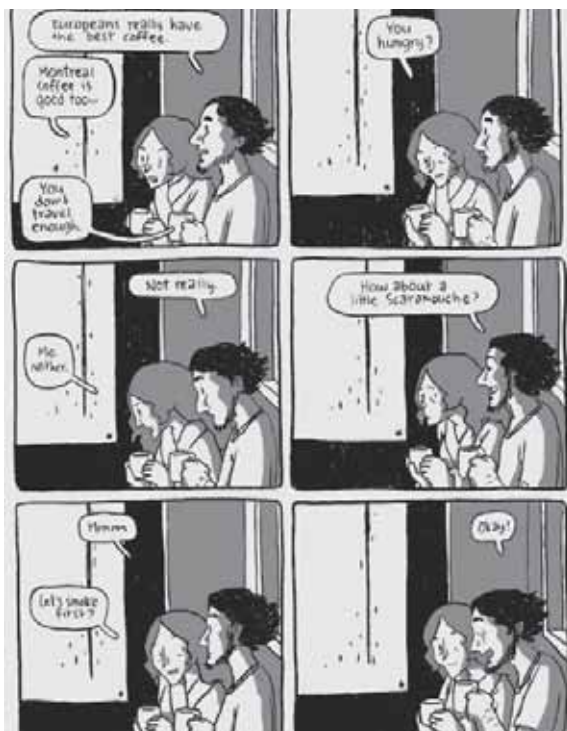
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The 'Follow-your-dreams' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

Illustrating sex and argument



For As Long As It Rains begins as a fantasy romance but quickly descends into a couple's power struggle. CONTRIBUTED

GRAPHIC NOVEL

Montreal artist uses comics to depict a very real relationship

BOOKWORM

Sue Carter



In theory, *For As Long As It Rains* should be a romantic fantasy.

The new translation of a gorgeous French graphic novel by Montreal cartoonist Zviane features a young unnamed couple who retreat to an architecturally stunning beachside home located somewhere in the Netherlands. But when the torrential rain refuses to let up and the real world begins creeping in, the fantasy dissolves and the sad truth of their relationship is revealed.

Zviane says she was inspired "to create the perfect place in the perfect woods, and have this couple trapped there."

It's no accident that her illus-



Zviane says she wanted her graphic novel to be honest.

CONTRIBUTED

trations of the open-concept house — with its two-storey bookshelves, upright pianos, modernist furniture and a kitchen that would make chefs envious — look like they should be on a Pinterest board. For research, Zviane pored over architectural magazines and design photos on the Internet, uncovering a fetish for what she refers to as "bookshelf and cabin porn." Each interior scene is drawn with a cinematic flourish, especially as shadows from the trees and the wall-to-wall windows start feeling more like prison bars. "You want to be there," she says, "but you would never want to live there."

According to Zviane, *For As Long As It Rains* was a challenge to illustrate, especially the couple's bodies in action, as she focused on muscular anatomy in ways she hadn't in her previous seven books. "I chose to draw it in a way that was hard for me," she says. "It's not what I usually do."

Unable to leave the house, the pair play piano (Zviane herself is a trained musician and music teacher), cook, nap, smoke pot, talk and have plenty of sex.

Zviane boldly depicts their lovemaking, over many pages, in graphic, intimate scenes that leave little left to the im-

BOOK NOTES


Montreal publisher crowdfunds translations

Canadian presses have long been publishing English translations of bande dessinée from France and Belgium, but significantly fewer French comics have made the journey out of Quebec. Zviane's publisher, Montreal's Pow Pow Press, is hoping to change that by simultaneously producing its books in both official languages. Turns out there's a demand: In December, Pow Pow successfully raised close to \$25,000 on Kickstarter to pay for its first translations.

agination and are definitely not safe to read during a subway commute.


"I don't consider it to be super erotic," she says. "I wanted to be honest. This is what is happening to this couple."

Sue Carter is editor at *Quill & Quire* magazine.



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3 BOOKS TO KEEP YOU UP AT NIGHT THIS WEEKEND

Drama in your personal life can be draining, but when you're merely an outsider, it can be addictive. All three of the books featured here are loaded with drama, albeit different types. Take the quiz to see which one will best satisfy your thirst for some weekend excitement.

EMILY LAURENCE METRO NEW YORK

1 Your ideal vacation would be:

- a. A road trip across America
- b. A trip to the Mediterranean seaside
- c. Travelling somewhere exotic, like the Middle East

2 What type of relationships really intrigue you?

- a. Familial relationships, as between parents and kids
- b. Former lovers
- c. Current lovers

3 Which of the below rings most true to you?

- a. "Growing up is losing some illusions, in order to acquire others"
- b. "Man is not what he thinks he is, he is what he hides"
- c. "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer"

4 Who in your life do you admire the most?

- a. Your mom or dad
- b. A grandparent
- c. A resourceful, quick-witted friend

5 What is the background on your phone?

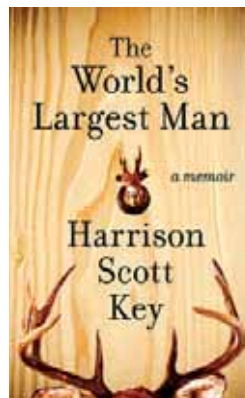
- a. A photo of someone you love
- b. A photo from a recent vacation
- c. A photo of something that motivates you to work hard

Mostly As

The World's Largest Man

By: Harrison Scott Key

Growing up in the Deep South, Harrison was fascinated by his father, a man's man who hunted, coached football and was a firefighter. But Harrison never seemed to be good enough for his dad. With a chip on his shoulder, Harrison consciously grew up to be his father's opposite: a mild mannered writer. It wasn't until he got married and became a father himself that he began to see his father in a new light.



Mostly Bs

The Rocks

By: Peter Nichols

Lulu and Gerald were married to each other once, but that was when they were young. Now they're both living life's last act. They haven't talked in more 50 years even though they live down the street from one another. Something major drove them apart, but they've been able to keep it a secret from everyone. Until now.

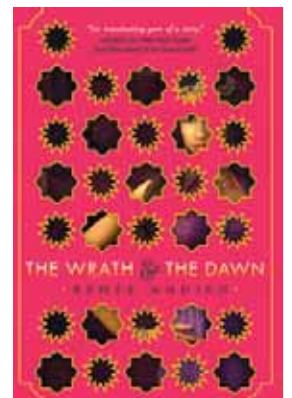


Mostly Cs

The Wrath & The Dawn

By: Renee Ahdieh

Khalid is a young Middle Eastern king who gifts himself a new bride every single night, only to kill her in the morning. Shahrzad's lost her best friend because of his murderous ways and vows to get her revenge. She charms Khalid, making him fall for her. But then something unexpected happens: She starts falling for him, too.

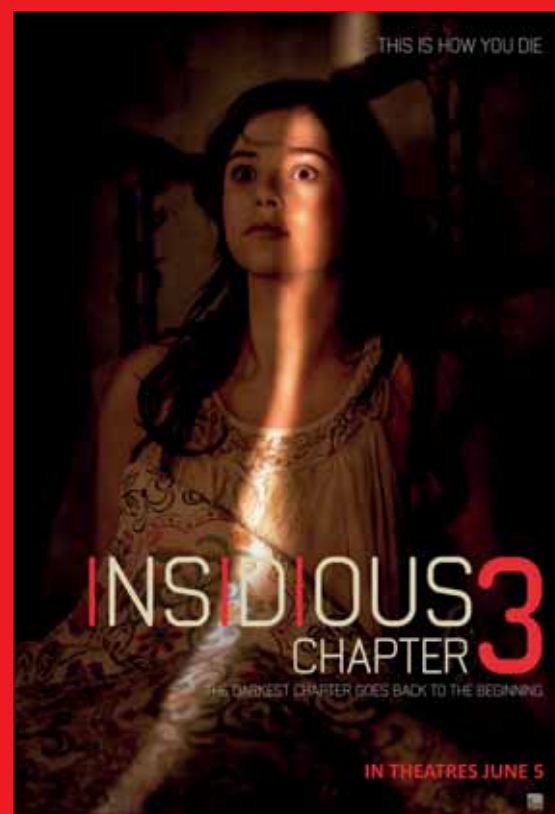


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Eggs, bacon not so bad after all



Eggs won't harm your health via cholesterol, according to a recent dietary report from the U.S.

ASA DAHLGREN/TORSTAR

DIETARY GUIDELINES

It's sunny side up for eggs when it comes to cholesterol

NUTRI-BITES

Theresa Albert

myfriendinfood.com



Yippee! You can eat eggs again!

Until now it's been "common knowledge" that eating eggs and other foods containing saturated fat would raise your cholesterol levels. But a storm has been brewing for years as evidence to the contrary emerged.

Now, this year's dietary guidelines published by the U.S. government are set to reverse the long-held recommendations regarding high-cholesterol foods, which asked people to limit their intake to 300 mg/day. That's because according to a recent report from the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, evidence



Cholesterol is not a nutrient of concern for overconsumption

Scientific Report of the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

shows there is no relationship between consumption of dietary cholesterol and blood cholesterol.

Here's the lowdown:

- Your liver manages the cholesterol in your body.
- Cholesterol is a necessary substance in the formation of cells and the management of hormones.

- Your liver decides how much you need and whips up more or less as necessary.

- Only 20 per cent of your cholesterol level is affected by dietary changes.

So what does this mean for your burger, bacon and eggs, baby back ribs lovin' self?

- You can enjoy eggs and the occasional high-saturated fat food without fearing it will harm your heart via cholesterol.

- You still can't indulge in BBQ every day as there are other downsides to cooked meat

- The calories and sugar in a rib dinner will still get you in the end (or the on the love handles)

- Butter is better than margarine.

- Sugar is now and always was the real enemy. It will contribute to poor cholesterol.

If you are currently on cholesterol lowering medication, talk to your doctor. But know that changing your diet won't cure your cholesterol.

Theresa is an on-camera food and health expert, nutritionist and writer who loves to spread the word on food.

LACK OF PATS

Japan can't supply butter to meet domestic demand

Japan was bracing this week for a severe butter shortage that threatened to crimp cake-making nationwide, bringing echoes of last year's dairy dire straits that left supermarket shelves empty.

The Japan Dairy Association is warning that demand for pats will outstrip supply by more than 7,000 tonnes, prompting the government to ready emergency imports.

Butter shortages last year provoked anguish for shoppers, especially in the run-up to the Christmas cake-baking season, with rationing introduced immediately by any store that had a delivery.

At the root of the problem is a wider dairy deficit that sees farmers prioritizing the raw material for sales of liquid milk.

Herds have been cut over recent decades as demand has dropped with an aging Japanese population.

Last year's butter imports — 7,000 tons in May and a further 3,000 tons in September — were the first time in years that Tokyo had raided foreign dairy markets. AFP



Butter is in short supply in Japan. ISTOCK

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FOOD TECH

App to trace the guy who caught your fish

A group of scientists and fishermen in Maine is working on a new tool they say will allow seafood consumers to learn the backstory of a piece of fish by scanning a code at the supermarket.

Gulf of Maine Research Institute and Maine Coast Fishermen's Association are co-operating to develop the tool, which they say will likely be a smartphone application.

Scientists say the planned application will allow consumers to learn the name of the fisherman who caught their fish and where they caught it.

The tool is the latest in the fast-growing food traceability tech sector.

Market research firm Visiongain says the world market for food traceability technologies will reach \$11.15 billion

in 2015. That is an increase of more than a half-billion dollars from the previous year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



An app in the works would allow consumers to learn the backstory of a piece of fish by scanning a code at the supermarket. PHOTO CREDIT



Danielle Brooks will play Sophia in the Broadway production of *The Color Purple*. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

‘Taystee is very much still alive’

DANIELLE BROOKS

Actor juggles OITNB role with Broadway commitment

Danielle Brooks is going from orange to purple — jumping from *Orange Is the New Black* on TV to a Broadway stage in the upcoming *The Color Purple* revival.

The actress, who plays Tasha “Taystee” Jefferson on the Netflix series, will play the proud, no-nonsense Sofia in the production directed and designed

by John Doyle. She’ll play the role Oprah Winfrey had in the film.

“My body is having an out-of-body experience,” she said Wednesday by phone from a writers’ workshop in New Harmony, Ind. “I’m so shocked and honoured and grateful.”

The cast also includes Jennifer Hudson as Shug Avery and Cynthia Erivo as Celie. All three women will be making their Broadway debuts. Performances start Nov. 9 at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre.

Brooks said *The Color Purple* was the very first Broadway show she ever saw 10 years ago when she was 15.

“Now, 10 years later, I get to do it,” she said. “I’m trying to hold it together.”

Doyle opened his production of *The Color Purple* in 2013 in London at the Menier Chocolate Factory. Music and lyrics are by Grammy winners Brenda Russell, Allee Willis and Stephen Bray.

The musical is a stage version of Alice Walker’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel set in rural Georgia that covers a lifetime of events observed by Celie, a homely, uneducated farm woman whose dreams are repeatedly shattered by the cruelty of males.

Brooks, born and raised in

South Carolina and educated at Juilliard’s drama program, has been in the film *Angry Birds*, HBO’s *Girls* and *Time Out of Mind*, starring Richard Gere.

She said she hopes she can juggle both her new Broadway commitment and *Orange Is the New Black*, which soon begins filming its fourth season and she credits with jump-starting her career.

“It’s opened so many doors in so many ways. I’m grateful that they’ve been so supportive of me and the new journey that I’m about to take,” Brooks said. “Taystee is very much still alive. So far. Knock on wood, please.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

N-SCORES

Neeson named top celebrity pitchman

Ad executives looking for a celebrity to endorse their product can’t do much better than actor Liam Neeson.

That’s the conclusion of the Nielsen company, which looked at celebrities who made commercials during the first three months of the year and ranked them with a calculation that takes into account likability, public awareness, influence and other factors. Its first “N-Scores” were released Tuesday. Neeson and Pierce Brosnan had identical scores of 94, although Neeson was judged to have a greater influence in getting products sold.

By looking at the effectiveness of celebrity pitchmen, the company best known for television ratings will now compete with Marketing Evaluations Inc., a company that produces the better-known Q Score, a measurement of public attitudes toward well-known figures.

Besides attaching scores to celebrity endorsers, Nielsen intends to offer marketers detailed information about the personalities and habits of people who respond well to each celebrity so they can better match pitchmen and products, said Chad Dreas,

CELEBSSELLS

Other celebs with recent ads that scored well in Nielsen’s measurement were Jennifer Garner, Natalie Portman, Sofia Vergara, Jim Parsons, Dennis Haysbert and J.K. Simmons.

Nielsen’s managing director of media analytics.

“What do they buy? Where do they shop? What do they watch?” said Dreas, describing the details Nielsen intends to sell.

Neeson, who has been featured in an ad for Supercell Games, is viewed positively by 78 per cent of Americans who know him, Nielsen said. Brosnan and Matthew McConaughey, both featured in car commercials recently, also scored well in Nielsen’s measurement.

Jeff Bridges stood out among celebrities for the amount of influence he carried with his fans, Nielsen said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Actor Liam Neeson scores highest in Nielsen survey of celebrity endorsers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The not-so-sweet side of sugar

NUTRITION

New app aims to combat misleading food labels



Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Trying hard to cut down on sugar consumption?

If you're only relying on nutritional labels, here's some bad news: You may actually be consuming more sugar than you think.

"There's no way you can read the label and know how much of that amount is from free sugars," said Jodi Bernstein, a nutritional sciences PhD candidate at the University of Toronto.

Free sugar refers to the total amount of naturally present sugars found in products such as syrups, honey and fruit juices, plus the factory-added sugars. It does not include sugar naturally present in milk, vegetables or whole fruit.

Some products contain only



free sugars — like coca cola — and their labels reflect the actual amount, she said. But flavoured yogurt will contain some natural sugars from different produces that make it, plus some added sugars from the manufacturer. The label, in that case, doesn't give you the breakdown, she said.

Enter a new invention: One Sweet App. It's a sugar tracker that uses a built-in food database to calculate the number of teaspoons of sugar found in your foods.

The World Health Organiza-



How much sugar is really in that cereal? The sugar tracker One Sweet App aims to tell you using a built-in food database. ISTOCK; CONTRIBUTED

tion recommends a maximum of 12 teaspoons of sugar per day. That's approximately 50 grams of sugar, or about 2,000 calories.

When the app user tallies all the food they ate per day, the

app breaks down how much free sugar was consumed, and how it compares to the WHO guidelines, said Bernstein.

"We're hoping this app will help increase awareness about products that are higher in

free sugars," she said, adding it will be a good starting point for people to make proper adjustments in their diet.

The app, currently available on iTunes, complements the release of a new documentary

+ THE DOC

It's called Sugar Coated: How the food industry seduced the world one spoonful at a time.

- **WHEN:** Set to premiere on TVO Wednesday night, the documentary will tour theatres across the country until July.
- **WHAT:** Producers say it features secret documents, archival footage and interviews with those working to "reverse the trend threatening the health and economy of the nation."
- **WHO:** Health experts featured include Gary Taubes, Robert Lustings, Yoni Freedhoff, Cristin Kerns and Stanton Glantz.

critical of sugar industry. Sugar Coated film documents how businesses have for long gone at great lengths to hide the "toxic" side of sugar, said Michele Hozer, its director and producer.



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METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING *PET LIFE*

The benefits of licensing your pet

The City of Edmonton is urging pet owners to reap the benefits of licensing their pets.

The money from the pet-licensing bylaw is used to provide food, shelter and medical care, including emergency care, for about 8,000 lost pets each year at the city's safe-keeping facility.

"We make sure that we have the top of the line facilities that take care of the animals," said Keith Scott, the co-ordinator of Edmonton's animal control centre.

A licence will also help return lost pets to their owner, which may not be possible with a microchip.

"We don't have microchip numbers in our system unless the animal is licensed," said Scott.

Licensing fees also support a free ride home once a year for lost, licenced cats and dogs; bylaw enforcement services for public safety; and responsible pet

ownership education programs. They also help fund almost \$500,000 a year to the Edmonton Humane Society and other local rescue groups that re-home animals transferred from the city's facility.

Even though an animal might stay indoors, Scott highly encourages getting a licence in case it escapes.

Starting at just \$20 annually, owners can license their cats and dogs in person, by mail or online.

"I encourage everybody to make sure that they are licensed. I think there's enough benefit out there that people see it as a valuable service."



CONTRIBUTED



A petition has been submitted to NXNE to pull the Action Bronson show scheduled for June 21. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Rapper says T.O. has 'panties in a bunch'

ACTION BRONSON

Festival backs show despite 'misogynistic' lyrics



Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The organizers of Toronto's North by Northeast (NXNE) festival are standing by their decision to offer a free public hip-hop show featuring Action Bronson — despite a petition asking them to pull the show over a song the petition says "glorifies gang-raping women." The petition accuses him of "violent misogyny" and calls the lyrics of his song Consensual Rape "hate speech."

The section of the song cited in the petition

begins, "Then dig your shorty out cuz I geeked her up on molly," and goes on to explicitly describe a group sexual encounter, ending with, "stuff her lunchbox & burn her with the candle."

Action Bronson responded on the controversy, tweeting that Torontonians "have their panties in a bunch" and the song that the petition objects to is a five-year-old "lost track" that he has never performed. "Don't single me out," he tweeted.

Action Bronson is set to perform on June 21 in a pub-

lic square at a free show. NXNE released a statement defending the show, and artists' rights "to express their views through music." It invited anyone who is offended to go see a different show.

"NXNE will also present a number of rap artists at various venues, such as Tink and Kate Tempest, who have been lauded for the undisguised feminist viewpoints in their music," said Sara Peel, Managing Director of NXNE, in the statement. As of Wednesday afternoon, the petition against Action Bronson had more than 1,600 signatures.

COMIC-CON

Fey and Poehler action figures? Sure!



Ned Ehrbar

This might be a good time to point out that my birthday is coming up soon.

Toy company Bif Bang Pow! has unveiled its 2015 Comic-Con exclusive, and it is quite awesome. The company has made action figures out of Tina Fey and Amy Poehler and given them a Saturday Night Live Week-

end Update play set. The only downside? The company only made 2,400 of the sets, and they're available for pre-order so I don't foresee that many still being available July.



RELATIONSHIPS

Taylor's pals not keen on Calvin



Calvin Harris. GETTY IMAGES

Taylor Swift seems to be having a fantastic time dating EDM star Calvin Harris, but her pals apparently aren't too thrilled and want her to kick his Scottish bum to the curb. "Calvin's putting on

a front now," a pal reveals. "He used to date a bunch of club girls who were nothing like Taylor. If they ever came forward, it would hurt Taylor's brand," a source tells Life & Style.

But Swift doesn't seem too concerned with her friends' concerns. "They are getting very serious, very fast," the source adds. "Taylor has already introduced Calvin to her parents."

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What they're asking



The modern suburban home is made for those who relish the luxury of open space, manicured lawns and quiet, safe streets conducive to raising a family. Metro looks at detached, newer, resale houses in subdivisions outside of town. **Duncan McAllister** FOR METRO



\$447,000

Edmonton

Here's a bright, two-storey home at 22027-95 Ave. N.W., in the Secord suburb of Edmonton. The house has an open-style floor plan and modern finishings throughout. There are three large bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms, a fully finished basement and a double attached garage. The great room offers hardwood floors with a fireplace. The chef's kitchen has a large island with an eating bar, granite counters and lots of cabinetry. The landscaped backyard has a fence and a large deck. The home is also close to all amenities. Bill Bhamra is a sales representative with Liv Real Estate, 780-707-2673.



\$1,179,900

Calgary

Aspen Woods is one of Calgary's most desirable suburbs, and Looma Homes built this detached home in the area in 2014. It's a two-storey walkout featuring views to the south, with 3,142 sq. ft. of living space. The main floor is open and bright, with a den and a formal dining area. The upper level has three bedrooms, and a bonus room. Tim Lind is a sales representative for Re/Max Real Estate (Mountain View), 403-333-0837.



\$439,900

Winnipeg

Here's an example of a three-bedroom, four-bathroom home in the Sage Creek community. This is a custom-built Broadview home with an attached garage. The upstairs also has a loft family room area and French doors open onto the master bedroom. This property has a professionally landscaped backyard with a garden shed and fire pit. Listing agent is Darryl Walsh, a sales representative with Royal LePage Dynamic Real Estate, 204-297-0860.



\$539,900

Ottawa

This four-bedroom home in Morgan's Grant features spacious principal rooms, a striking foyer, two family rooms plus an open, finished recreation room. There's cherry flooring on the main floor, marble in the powder room, foyer and laundry, and imported Italian tile in the kitchen. There's also a fenced backyard. Listing agent Geoff McGowan is a sales representative with Re/Max Affiliates Realty, 613-216-1755.



The 'Fresh-start' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.



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The new backyard hangouts

When Morgaine Ford-Workman and Wren Workman bought a house with a backyard shed, they saw the potential for something more than storing garden tools. The couple transformed the 10-by-12-foot building into a bar to use during outdoor parties at their home in Morrisville, Penn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MORGAINE FORD-WORKMAN VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NO GARDEN TOOLS HERE

Barshed draws rave reviews

"We're involved in community theatre and we like to throw a lot of parties," Ford-Workman said. "It's an extra place to hang out." Ford-Workman and her husband spent about \$300 fixing up their structure, which friends have dubbed "Barshed." They furnished it with cast-off furniture from friends. "Our Barshed is nothing to put in a home-design magazine by any stretch of the imagination, but all our friends rave about its existence," she said.

ECONOMICAL MOVE

No need to buy new house

Jennifer and Eric Antonow added a shed to their Palo Alto, Calif., property because they can't afford a bigger house. "It made so much economic sense," she said. They use their shed as a home office and recording studio. It sits next to their hot tub, so sometimes they use it as a changing room. Jennifer also anticipates serving drinks there while entertaining outside. The Antonows needed a permit to install the shed, which rests on a concrete slab.



JEREMY HORGAN-KOBELSKI/STUDIO SHED VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ REPURPOSED SHEDS OFFER A PLACE TO UNWIND

Converted spaces serve various purposes

People looking to get more use out of their backyards are building or converting sheds to serve as yoga

studios or TV rooms, for example. "As we continue to explore other ways we can utilize our backyard space, we will continue to see trends like this," said

Stacy Nelson, owner of backyard-design consulting firm Backyard Mamma in Weston, W. Va. "We want to be in nature and unwind."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEED A PERMIT?

City and municipal rules vary, so check with the local zoning department before adding a shed to your property.



ISTOCK



The 'Let's-downsize' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.



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'Hawks going back to Cali

NHL PLAYOFFS

Chicago pushes Anaheim to limit in Western final

Duncan Keith had three assists and saved a goal in the third period, and the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Anaheim Ducks 5-2 on Wednesday night to force a Game 7 in the Western Conference final.

Brandon Saad, Marian Hossa and Patrick Kane scored in the second to help the Blackhawks hand the Ducks their first regulation loss of the playoffs. Andrew Shaw had two goals in the third, and Corey Crawford finished with 30 saves.

The Blackhawks improved to 31-0 when leading after two periods and erased some of the sting from Monday night's 5-4 overtime loss.

Patrick Maroon and Clayton Stoner scored for the Ducks, and Frederik Andersen made 18 saves.

Anaheim caught a break when Jakob Silfverberg brushed up against Crawford's glove on Stoner's first goal of the playoffs at 1:57 of the third, trimming Chicago's lead to 3-2. There was no call on the play and Crawford threw up his hands in exasperation after Stoner's big slap shot went into the net.

But Crawford quickly put the play behind him, hanging tough while the Ducks made

GAME 6 In Chicago



a frantic push for the tying goal. He got some help from Keith when the two-time Norris Trophy winner swept a shot away from the goal line about 3 1/2 minutes into the period.

Shaw finally got the Blackhawks some breathing room when he beat Andersen with a nifty backhand high into the net with 3:32 left. Andrew Desjardins made a nice hustle play to get the puck over to Shaw for his third playoff goal.

Shaw then added an empty-netter in the final minute as Chicago improved to 7-1 at home in the playoffs.

The Blackhawks' biggest stars stepped up during a key stretch in the second, led by another terrific all-around performance for Keith. Shaking off the Ducks' plan to wear down Chicago's top four defencemen, Keith had his fourth multipoint game of the playoffs.

Chicago will have a chance to put last year's Game 7 loss in the West final against the Kings to bed on Friday night in Anaheim.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Blackhawks celebrate Brandon Saad's second-period goal on Ducks goalie Frederik Andersen on Wednesday night in Chicago. TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

WORLD CUP

Officials say tournament won't be tarnished

The FIFA corruption scandal won't tarnish the Women's World Cup, say the Canadian Soccer Association and Canada's sports minister.

Swiss prosecutors opened criminal proceedings into FIFA's awarding of the 2018 and 2022 World Cups Wednesday.

News of the criminal investigation comes 10 days before the Women's World Cup kicks off. The 24-team tournament runs through July 5 in Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Montreal and Moncton.

The CSA, which doubles as the World Cup's national organizer, said in a statement that it was "extremely disappointed by today's developments and welcome and support all efforts to eliminate this type of behaviour in the sport."

The CSA said it would make no further comment.

Federal Sports Minister Bal Gosal, meanwhile, said he's confident that Canadian soccer authorities won't be pulled into the criminal investigations into FIFA executives and that the World Cup will be a success.

Gosal called the allegations terrible, but an internal matter for FIFA's executive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bal Gosal
GETTY IMAGES



The 'Encore' Stage.

See page 37 for full details.

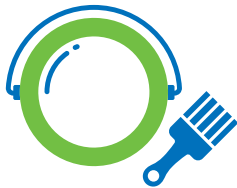


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RECIPE Sliced Chicken with Mango Guacamole



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

Twitter: @rosereisman

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients

- 6 single boneless chicken breasts
- 1 cup mashed ripe avocado (1 large or two small)
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 2 Tbsp reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 2 tsp finely chopped jalapeño pepper (or 1 tsp hot chili sauce)
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 4 tsp lemon or lime juice
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup diced ripe mango
- 1/2 cup finely diced red bell pepper

Directions

1. Grill the chicken breasts, just until cooked or temperature reaches 160 F, approximately 10 minutes. Keep covered while preparing guacamole.

2. For guacamole, combine avocado, cilantro, mayonnaise, jalapeño, garlic, lemon juice and salt and pepper in a small bowl.

3. Slice each chicken breast on an angle, set on a serving plate, add guacamole down the centre and garnish with mango and red pepper.

Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)

- Calories 162
- Protein 26.4 g
- Carbohydrates 1.8 g
- Total fat 5 g

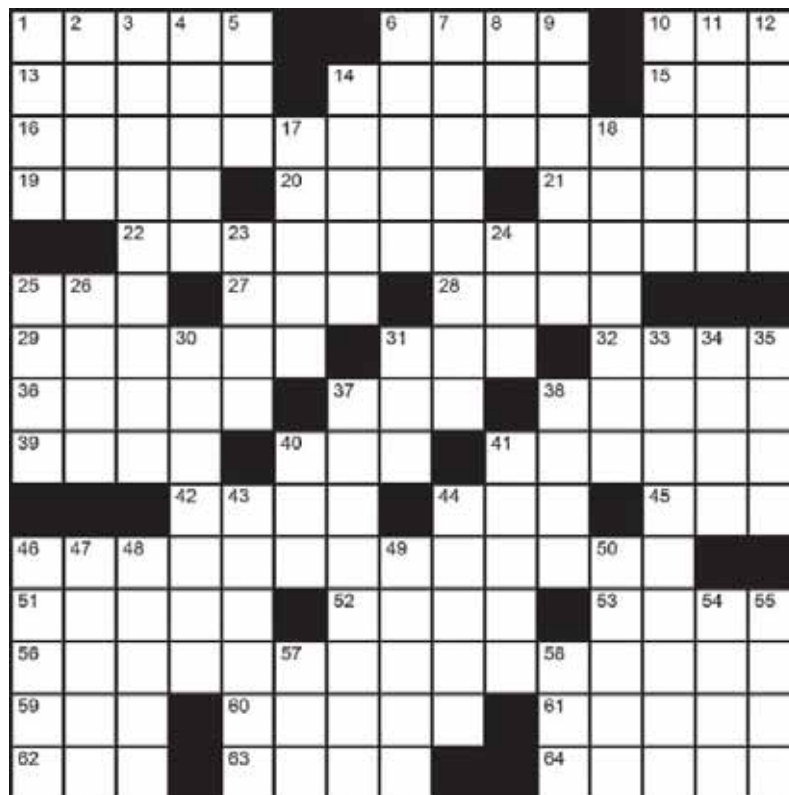
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Actress Cheryl, and surnamesakes
6. Seaport of Yemen
10. Musician's trophy, e.g.
13. Self-mover's rental
14. GNR hit: "Sweet Child _ _"
15. 13th Greek letters
16. Place for shoppers to hunt for deals: 2 wds.
19. Aleutian island
20. Woodworking wedge
21. "Sugar is sweet and _ _ you."
22. "The Littlest Hobo" theme song: 2 wds.
25. Leandro's beloved
27. Grad-to-be, briefly
28. Faux pas
29. Map's travel lines
31. Medicine watchdog in The States [acronym]
32. Agnus _ (Mass prayers)
36. Lay to rest
37. Headshakes
38. Bandleader Mr. Goodman
39. Madeline of comedies
40. Atop, in poetry
41. Steve of "The Office"
42. Unfeeling
44. "The Fresh Prince of _ Air"
45. "Headache" in French, _ de tete
46. Moncton is Canada's first official



- one: 2 wds.
51. Broker
52. CCR tune
53. "Assuming that's true...": 2 wds.
56. Alberta/Montana: _ _ International Peace Park
59. Nero's 56
60. Desert visions

61. Canadian band, The _ MacNeils
62. Arrange
63. " _ _ I say, not..."
64. Beer mug

DOWN

1. Montreal-born songstress
2. At the drop of

- _ _ (Fast)
3. Locale on Halifax Harbour
4. French explorer in Canada, Pierre _ _ de Monts
5. Patty Hearst's kidnappers [acronym]
6. Scope
7. Charli XCX's current

- song collaboration with #18-Down
8. Nav. rank
9. Hollywood's Liam (Brunei's capital)
10. Approaching, archaically
11. Canadian writer Alice
12. In _ _ (Upset)
14. " _ _ Majesty's Se-

- cret Service (1969)"
17. Paperback numbers
18. Record producer, Giorgio _ (Trivial! He produced most of Donna Summer's hits)
23. Flanders river
24. Onetime bird
25. Mr. Estrada
26. Minister of Health Ms. Ambrose
30. Start of a count-down...: 2 wds.
31. 'F' in FWIW
33. Shots from the other side: 2 wds.
34. "To Live and Die _ _ _" (1985)
35. Word segment [abbr.]
37. Strix _ (Great Gray Owl, fancy-style)
38. "Road to _" (1952)
40. Texter's "No! Way!"
41. Mr. B. DeMille
43. Pathless
44. Skyline components, for short
46. Waits
47. " _ _ already." (Reply to a donation request)
48. Rolling Stones album: " _ _ Bleed"
49. Top notches
50. Certain CFL-er, curtly
54. Bandar _ Begawan (Brunei's capital)
55. Port city of Algeria
57. Universal principle
58. Stomach muscles, commonly

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
A change in your social or professional standing is likely, but will it be a change for the better or a change for the worse? If you are offered something new but slightly scary ... go for it!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You can turn a minor success into a major triumph today, simply by letting others help you complete what you started. Don't let pride of creation or ownership stop you from sharing your good ideas.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Don't waste time worrying about something that is about as likely to happen as the Sun rising in the west. The planets warn you are wasting time and energy fretting.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Try not to criticize a colleague for what goes wrong today, even if it is clearly their fault. Most likely they will feel even worse about it than you do, so let them know you don't blame them.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Something you are working on may look complicated but actually it is really quite simple. Talk to someone who knows what they are doing in this area and before long you will be as big an expert as they are, maybe bigger.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It never hurts to be careful but there is a fine line between caution and outright mistrust and if you cross that line today you may regret it.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may be tempted to tackle ten things at once today so that you can begin to get on top of your workload again. Set yourself a sensible schedule and tackle just one thing at a time.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
A colleague may tell you that a job has to be done a certain way but if your instincts tell you otherwise then trust yourself and do it your way. What's the worst that can happen?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't commit yourself to anything too strenuous today. Save your energy — physical, mental and emotional — for tomorrow and over the weekend when difficult tasks will be easier to handle.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may have to do something you don't particularly enjoy today but if you knuckle down and get on with it you should finish in good time. More importantly, of course, you must make a good job of it.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
No matter what interesting events you have lined up for the day you will have to postpone at least one of them so you can help a friend or family member who desperately needs your assistance.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't try to hide your feelings today because others will see right through you. Being such a sensitive soul you are rarely able to disguise your true emotions.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



Difficulty Level ★

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43 MPG

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29 MPG

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\$222BW

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\$112BW

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SALESPERSON
OF THE MONTH



Corry McMullen